MAINPURI:

A GAZETTEER,

BEING

VOLUME X

OF THE

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

EDITED AND COMPILED

BY

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GAZETTEER OF MAINPURI.

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PREFACE.

THE old Gazetteer of the Mainpuri district was edited by Mr. E. T. Atkinson and was based on the Settlement Report of Messrs. McConaghey and Smeaton and materials supplied by the district officers. In making the present revision I have been much indebted to the Settlement Report of Mr. W. J. E. Lupton, I.C.S., and notes written by Mr. Morris, I.C.S., when Collector of the district in 1904. But I have to express my particular gratitude to Mr. A. C. Walker, I.C.S., the present Collector of Mainpuri, for his ready and generous help. He read through the typewritten sheets of the whole book (except Chapter V) before it went to press, rewriting many paragraphs in the light of his own local knowledge, adding a great deal of new material, and sparing neither time nor labour to ensure the correctness and completeness of the work. He also gave me further assistance by reading the proofs.

NAINI TAL:
June 1909.

E. R. N.

GAZETTEER OF MAINPURI.

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Miles.



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CHAPTER I.

GENERAL FEATURES.

Mainpuri, a district of the Agra division, is bounded on the North by the Etah district, on the East by Farrukhabad, on the South by Etawah and Agra, and on the West by the districts of Agra and Etah. It lies between North latitude 26° 53′ to 27° 31′ and East longitude 78° 27′ to 79° 26′. The area of the district in 1899 was 1,071,969 acres, or 1,674·95 square miles, and the population in 1901 numbered 829,357 persons, or 495 to the square mile. Of these 781,210 were Hindus, 47,794 Musalmans, and 353 Christians. The average length of the district is about 56 miles, and the breadth varies from about 42 to 18 miles, the average being about 33 miles. Of the total area 590,434 acres, or 55·08 per cent., are cultivated, and 145,068 acres (including 17,573 acres under groves), or 13·53 per cent., are culturable. The boundaries have varied considerably from time to time owing to changes which will be described in Chapter IV. Boundaries and Area.

The district generally presents the appearance of an extensive level plain broken only by the sand ridges on the western border, the rolling sand hills and undulations of the Kali and Isan rivers, and the ravines along the Jamna to the south-west. The Kali Nadi forms the boundary of this plain on the north and north-east and the Jamna encloses it on the south-west. Both these rivers flow towards the south-east, and between them, in almost parallel courses, run the four smaller streams, the Isan, the Arind, the Sengar, and the Sirsa, following the general slope of the country from north-west to south-east. Taking the district from north to south, the average fall of the rivers, excluding the Jamna, is 1·5 feet per mile, and the average slope of the surface of the country is 1·2 feet per mile. A line of levels taken across the district from the Jamna to the Kali shows that the watersheds of the streams running through it at the point of intersection are almost exactly the same height above the level Topography.

of the sea. The highest point in the district is only 139 feet above the lowest.

Levels. Levels are extremely important in a canal district like Mainpuri and are constantly referred to by the Canal Engineers, who have their own private bench-marks, generally the mile-stones along the main canals. The main bench-marks are the Grand Trigonometrical Survey bench-marks. The one at Ghiror at the corner of the Ghiror canal inspection house in the Etawah canal division is marked 527·29 above the sea, and on the top of the north-western wall of the Ghiror Canal bridge is another such mark showing 534·23 feet. In the Baragaon village in Mustafabad pargana is a third, showing 573·3 feet. At Mainpuri opposite the entrance of the jail two paces inside of the boundary is a fourth with 511 feet. In the Mainpuri Canal division, Bewar branch, the bridges are used as bench-marks as a rule. The only Grand Trigonometrical Survey mark in this division is one at Singhpur on the Etawah road with 517·83 feet, situated near the south-east corner of the canal *chauki*. There are no Grand Trigonometrical Survey bench-marks on the Bhognipur or Aligarh branches, and only one in the Cawnpore division, at Ramnagar, two paces from the south-east corner of the Tarha Canal *chauki* on the Cawnpore branch; height 494·31 feet. The East Indian Railway has bench-marks at railway stations on the Farrukhabad branch with reduced levels as follows:—Shikohabad, on the well south of the line 1,300 feet from the centre of the Shikohabad station towards Farrukhabad, 532·65; Araon, on pillar 200 feet north of the line 100 feet on the Shikohabad side of 1st span of 6 feet girder at the Shikohabad end of the station yard, 518·16; Araon, on parapet of culvert at the Farrukhabad end of the station, 523·01; Kosma, centre of station, 80 feet south, 517·41; Mainpuri, on boundary pillar to the north at the centre of the station, 510·92; Mainpuri, on furlong post no. 2 to the south, 300 feet on the Shikohabad side of the bridge of 2 spans of 28 feet over the Sathni Dalippur drain, 510·64; Bhongaon, stone no. 8 to the south at the Farrukhabad end of the station yard, 506·62; Mota, no. 7 mile post to the north, 100 feet beyond the girder of one span of 12 feet, 700 feet beyond the Farrukhabad end of the station yard, 504·52.

Generally speaking the soils of the district are typical of those found elsewhere in the Indo-Gangetic plain, and are classified on two principles according as the distinctions recognised are natural or artificial. Both are well understood and commonly employed by the cultivator. Of the natural divisions *bhur* is the name of the soil containing a large proportion of sand, while *matiyar* is the name of that containing a large proportion of clay, and between these two extremes is a loamy soil called *dumat* having clay and sand more evenly divided as its name implies. A lighter soil than *dumat* is known as *pilia*, coming between *dumat* and *bhur*. The distribution of these soils appears to be connected with the rapidity of the drainage of surface water from the almost flat alluvial plain, for sand is found wherever there is a river with a comparatively deep bed within a few miles, and clay is commonest near swamps and other ill-defined drainage lines, and it is manifest that the finer particles of clay having a low inertia are washed out of the higher tracts into the depressions and deposited under favourable circumstances, but where the drainage is too fast to permit of their being deposited they are carried down. On the whole the district, lying as it does midway down the Duab, is typical of the Duab and contains an average proportion of the clay and sandy soils. The barren soil known as *usar* is found at the heads and partly down the courses of the smaller rivers such as the Ahnaiya and Puraha, the Sengar and Arind, and the numerous minor streams, and appears to be a clayey deposit too compact to permit of cultivation and in places too impregnated with *reh* and other deleterious mineral substances to permit of the growth of even grass. Soils.

Of the four natural soils excluding *usar*, *matiyar* is a stiff, unyielding clay of a dark colour, shrinking and cracking in dry weather into a network of fissures, but expanding when moistened into a sticky clayey mass. It is usually found near *usar* and *jhils* and generally wherever water collects, having an immense capacity for absorbing and retaining moisture, of which it can hold more than twice its own weight. If the rainfall be either excessive or deficient *matiyar* can scarcely be cultivated at all, the plastic adhesive clay rolling back from the clogged plough into its old position in the one case, while in *Matiyar.*

the other the surface, of the temper and consistency of baked bricks, defies the utmost efforts of the husbandman to break it up. In favourable circumstances *matiyar* will bear good crops of rice, and can be utilized for the *rabi*, but its worst quality, generally known as *maiyar* or *kabar*, is a miserable soil capable only of producing the poorest rice and a scanty crop of barley.

Bhur.

The second natural soil is *bhur*, which is in all respects the opposite of *matiyar*, being loose and sandy, and quite incapable of retaining moisture. Both are extremes, the one is compact and hard, the other loose and yielding; the one hoards its moisture and manure miserly, the other spends is thriftlessly. *Bhur* can be ploughed at all seasons with little labour and rapidly absorbs the rainfall, allowing it to drain to the subsoil beneath. *Puth* is the name given to *bhur* where it runs in uneven ridges above the level of the surrounding country. In the sandy circles of pargana Kuraoli there is a peculiar soil resembling, but easily distinguished from, *bhur*, which is known as *tikuriya*. It is harder and redder than *bhur* and though occurring oftenest in sandy tracts is also to be found with *dumat*. Its characteristic qualities are its power of absorbing a great quantity of water without injury to its productivity, and the rapidity with which it dries up. It has, on the other hand, the disadvantage of requiring more water, and where two waterings will suffice for *bhur*, three will be required for *dumat*, and four for *tikuriya*.

Dumat and *Pilia.*

Neither *bhur* nor *matiyar* possess the characteristics of really good soils, and the maximum of productiveness is found in the soils which combine, in moderate proportions, the qualities of the two. These are the loams, *dumat* and *pilia* or *pira*, which form the remaining two natural soil divisions. *Dumat*, as its name implies, comprises sand and clay in almost equal proportions, while in *pilia* the sand somewhat predominates. Both insensibly merge into one another, but the worst *dumat* can always be readily distinguished from the best *pilia*. The former is generally of a rich brownish colour, adhesive without tenacity, friable without looseness, slippery and greasy when wet, and with a soapy feeling when dry, and cutting like a cheese when ploughed wet. The *pilia*, as its name shows, is of a yellowish

colour. A mixture of *dumat* and sand, found in Kuraoli, is there called *milauna*, and the red sand underlying the watershed between the Isan and the Kali is known as *kabsa*.

The artificial division of soils is based on their position in relation to the village site. The belt immediately surrounding the village site, which is always well manured and highly cultivated, is known as *gauhan* or *bara* and pays the highest rent. The next strip, which shares to a less degree in the same advantages, is called *manjha*, while the outlying lands are termed *barha*.

Soils are further classified according to their position as *bangar*, or upland, and *tarai*, the low-lying alluvial strip along the river valleys. In the Jamna ravine tract there is a further local subdivision into (1) the *uparhar* or land on the plateau level of the rest of the district, (2) the *behar*, or ravines proper, where are found some inferior soils known as *jhori* and *danda*; and (3) the *kachhar* and *tir* soils alongside the stream and the *bhagna* or old bed of the river.

The great soil tracts.

The character and quality of the local drainage exercises, as mentioned above, a considerable influence upon the quality and distribution of these soils. The Isan, up to its junction with the Kaknadi, flows slowly in a shallow bed, but after that the bed deepens, the current grows stronger, and the volume increases. Similarly, the Sengar, up to its junction with the Senhar, is a sluggish stream; but after receiving its tributary, it becomes a rapid river, flowing through a deep and well-defined bed. The Arind is always slow, shallow and winding, and the Sirsa varies very little in its course. Parallel to these rivers, and with the same direction, are the three great soil tracts: the northern sand tract between the Isan and the Kali; the central loam tract between the Isan and Kaknadi on the north, and the Sirsa on the south ; and the southern mixed tract between the Sirsa and the Jamna.

The sandy tract.

From the thin strips of alluvial land forming the bed of the Kali, on the east of the district, the surface of the country rises rapidly to a line of barren sandy mounds and hollows. A strip of level country then intervenes for a short distance before the descent to the Isan is reached. The slope is gradual here, for

the bed of the Isan at a distance of from four to six miles from the watershed between the rivers is at a higher level than the bed of the Kali Nadi at a distance of two to three miles. The characteristics of this Kali-Isan *duab* are the preponderance of sand in the soil, the scantiness of irrigation, and the consequent difficulties in seasons of drought. But it is not uniform in appearance or quality and contains much loam in the northern part. If a line be drawn from Bhongaon to the edge of the district beyond Akbarpur Auncha, and another line from Kuraoli to the same point, these lines, with the Grand Trunk road as their base, enclose a triangular tract in which loam with *jhils* and *dhak (Butea frondosa)* jungle continually appear. To the north-east of the Grand Trunk road and between Kuraoli and Bhongaon there is a distinct band of loam, about two miles in breadth. The drifting sand runs in two ridges along the banks of the Kali and Isan, and continues along the Kaknadi from the point of bifurcation at Gopalpur. These ridges gradually intermingle with the plain between the river valleys, and as the distance between the rivers increases the character of the soil improves. Thus, in the centre and western portions of the small pargana of Bewar and the portion of Bhongaon immediately to the south, where the Kali and the Isan approach one another more nearly than elsewhere, the sand ridges are extensive and the level plain between them is restricted in area and light in soil. On the other hand, between Kuraoli and Bhongaon, where the distance between the two rivers is doubled, the intervening level plain spreads out, and, as noted above, contains considerable patches of loam.

The loam tract.

The second or loam tract comprises the entire country between the Isan and the Sengar, extending in many places across the Sengar to the Sirsa. The country intersected by the Arind is of the same character. In the south-east the transition from sand to loam is somewhat gradual, a little mixed soil being found where the sandy belt along the Isan mingles with the loam. With this exception and the appearance of the mixed features of the southern tract along the upper course of the Sengar, there is little else besides loam and clay with *usar* the concomitant of clay in this loamy tract, which comprises the southern halves of

parganas Kishni-Nabiganj and Bhongaon, the whole of Karhal, the northern corner of Barnahal, the whole of Ghiror, the greater part of Mainpuri, the southern corner of Kuraoli, the whole of Mustafabad, and a great slice of the northern portion of Shikohabad. This central region stretches from east to west in one unbroken expanse of high cultivation or absolutely barren *usar* plains, and bears on its culturable areas luxuriant crops under copious irrigation culminating in the Mustafabad pargana, in which all advantages, natural and artificial, are found combined in a remarkable manner. From the junction of the Sengar with the Senhar, however, the firm loam yields to a light soil, which here and there breaks out into sand ridges, cuts into the surrounding country widening as it goes on, until, on nearing the Etawah frontier, the gradually narrowing tongue of loam and *usar* disappears, and merges into the southern tract. The central and northern portions of the loamy tract are covered with *jhils*, and there is a considerable amount of jungle in the extreme south-west. Pargana Ghiror especially has great stretches of *usar* which, in the rains, become sheets of water. The water deepens in pargana Karhal, forming *jhils* and marshes, and further in the south-east of Bhongaon, Kishni-Nabiganj, and Karhal, there are groups of *jhils* many of which are always filled with water. It is here that the large *dhak* jungles are found. The entire tract is singularly free from sand. In Mustafabad, however, one line of sand runs almost due north and south and can easily be traced from the borders of the Firozabad pargana through Mustafabad and Shikohabad until it merges in the Jamna ravines. It is considerably above the level of the surrounding country, rises rather abruptly from it, and the line of demarcation between its soil and the loam on either side is clearly marked. It appears to have no connection with the country through which it passes, differing in this respect from the sand ridges on the Kali and Isan which gradually merge into the adjoining loam. A similar though smaller ridge adjoins it on the east. The soil to the north of Shikohabad resembles that of Mustafabad, and stiff loam and large *usar* plains abound. High *bhur* tracts occur especially in belts running parallel to the Sengar and near its banks, and there the soil is poor and its

surface is often uneven and broken with ravines. The prevailing characteristic soil is, however, a light but rich yellow loam forming a kind of mean between pure loam and sand. It is much superior to sand and but little inferior to natural loam.

The mixed tract.

South of the central tract lies the tract of mixed soils situated between the Sirsa and the Jamna which comprises a mixture of sand and loam in a proportion not found elsewhere. The southern portion of this tract is distinguished from the northern by a firmer and more fertile soil and a greater uniformity in the surface. It is again distinguished from the central tract by a greater admixture of sand, a smaller proportion of well irrigation, a less high class of cultivation, and the absence of *usar* and marsh. As the Sirsa is approached from the north, *usar* almost entirely disappears and a uniform plain of high cultivation is reached. About two miles to the south of the Sirsa the land becomes less fertile, *usar* is unknown, and there are few *jhils* of any size. Close to the town of Shikohabad the soil is the finest loam of a light colour (*pira*), more friable and easily worked than the loam proper, and very fertile. Water is found at from 25 to 45 feet from the surface, and the substratum is firm and the spring habitually reached. To the south of the Sirsa the *pira* tract is lighter, irrigation grows scanty, the water level sinks rapidly until the Jamna ravine division is met, where it is found at from 80 to 100 feet below the surface. Here, owing to the depth of the water-level, the broken nature of the surface and the gritty character of the soil, cultivation is sparse and irrigation almost impossible. To the south of the ravines, on the banks of the river, is found the valuable alluvial soil known as *kachhar*, and a similarly fertile strip running through the ravines of Orawar is known as *bhagna*.

On the whole therefore the soil of the district is good with a predominance of loam. With the loam there is intermixed, as usual, a great proportion of *usar*, but being absolutely barren it does not tempt any one to eke out a precarious livelihood, while it is useful as grazing ground. The sandy tracts which stretch from the Ganges westwards over the neighbouring districts of Etah and Farrukhabad run only a short way into this district, and on the other hand it is separated, for the most part, from the

broad belt of sand which runs along the Jamna further west. Moreover, throughout the district irrigation from wells or canals is easily obtainable and tolerably certain.

Rivers. The Jamna.

The Jamna, which flows along the south-western boundary of the district, is its largest and at the same time its most interesting river. Its course is in a general direction towards the south-east, a distance of 18 miles in a straight line, but with its bends the river covers 43 miles : in fact its course here and further west over the Agra border is much more winding than that of any other large river in the provinces. Compared with the country further down its course, that through which it flows here is soft and sandy and liable to erosion, from which cause no doubt has arisen its sinuosity. Having established, however, a winding channel, and thereby reduced its own velocity, it tends to remain permanently in its course, and sudden changes, moreover, are hindered by its depth below the general alluvial plateau on either side. Still such changes are possible, and have actually taken place at at least three points, and bends of the river have been cut off and left silted and dry. Of these diversions the most important is that at Orawar and Punchha, 9 miles in length ; another is in Pariyar, 4 miles in length; and the third, in the Agra district, between Batesar and Narangi Bah, is about three miles long. Close to Harha there is a loop of the river 9 miles in length comprising three villages in the Mainpuri district, which are doomed to be cut off sooner or later, when the river has worn through the narrow neck of land connecting them with the left bank. The neck of land contains only 100 yards of high ground with a maximum height of 20 feet above the high flood level, and any extraordinary flood would precipitate matters. Should this occur the town of Batesar lying at the bottom of the loop with its bathing ghats and temples would be left at least three miles from the river. A similar bend on the right bank near the village of Dandauli would transfer a large area to the Mainpuri side should the river break through at its narrowest point. Apart from its winding nature the bed of the Jamna at this point has sunk much lower below the surface of the alluvial plain than the Ganges, one reason no doubt being its longer course from its debouchment from the hills to its

confluence with the Ganges. Having on this account a lesser gradient than the Ganges, it follows that its greatest depth below the Ganges must be at a point about midway between Allahabad and the Siwaliks, provided that the gradient is uniform and the level of each at the Siwaliks is about the same. The Jamna, too, differs from the Ganges in that its volume is fed by the sudden floods of the Central Indian rivers, and these must have scoured out its bed deeply. The banks rise in some places abruptly to a height of eighty or a hundred feet, leaving at their base barely room for a narrow broken footway above the stream, and again in other places they rise gradually upwards and leave room for fertile expanses half a mile or more in width of alluvial land, known as *kachhar*, and occasional beds of sand. The *kachhar* land is submerged only at times of exceptional floods, but produces luxuriant crops without irrigation. From the top of the bank the ravines stretch from a quarter of a mile to a mile inland. They are almost entirely void of cultivation, but afford good pasturage to cattle, which are kept in great numbers by the tribe of Phatak Ahirs, who settled here some centuries ago. Similar to the *kachhar* but of greater fertility is the old river bed called *bhagna* winding through the ravines of Punchha, Orawar and Orawar Manrua. Its name, peculiar conformation and local traditions, all point to its having been at some very remote period the bed of the Jamna. It joins the river at both ends; is about the same breadth as the existing bed with its *kachhar*, and is similarly bounded on both sides by precipitous ravines. Some years ago a cultivator while sinking a well found the remains of a boat in a fair state of preservation imbedded in the *bhagna* many feet below the surface; a strong proof of the correctness of the commonly accepted theory of the origin of this peculiar physical feature. Wells are made at the edge of the *bhagna*, as in the true Jamna valley, close to the high cliffs of the plateau, but irrigation is scarcely needed even in dry seasons. The western branch of the *bhagna* has deteriorated considerably from the erosion of the small torrent called the Nandia: former owners of the village of Punchha had erected masonry embankments to prevent the scour of this tributary of the Jamna and the remains

of two structures are to be seen at its mouth, where the Nandia curiously enough has cut its way to the Jamna through a cliff on the western side of the *bhagna*. The *bhagna* at Pariyar is only four miles in length of less fertility and of obviously older formation. On account of its high banks and sluggish current the changes in the river are neither so great nor so frequent as in the Muttra district further north, and gain or loss from alluvion or diluvion are of small importance. Below the *kachhar* land is the river bed soil or *tir* in which as soon as the rainy season floods subside the plough is run and the seed sown without the labour of irrigation or preliminary cultivation so needed elsewhere. The river is fordable at a few places in the cold and dry seasons, especially when the canals are absorbing the river water higher up and the year has been one of scanty rainfall. There are ferries at Orawar Manrua, Rajpur Balai, Bara Bagh, Batesar, Bikrampur and Parna, all except the first being controlled by the Agra District Board. At Narangi Bah on the road to Batesar the river contracts to a width of about 150 feet in the cold weather, running swiftly in a narrow deep channel of *kankar* and here is located a temporary pontoon bridge replaced by a ferry in the rainy season. The site of the pontoon bridge is an ideal one for a more permanent structure. About a mile from Narangi Bah on the Agra side of the river in the old bed begins the ground where the annual horse and cattle fair is held in connection with the full moon bathing festival of the month of *Kartik* (November) at Batesar. The town of Batesar itself is three miles from Narangi Bah facing the Jamna at the other end of its old bed opposite the village of Bhar Tar on the Mainpuri shore. Except Batesar there are no important places along the river and navigation and trade are practically nil.

There are no actual tributaries of the Jamna, but two ravine torrents, the Nandia mentioned above and the Patsui nala, flow into it in this district. The Nandia before it cuts through the *bhagna* near Punchha village drains a large area and forms a separate system of ravines reaching for miles into the district. The Nandia assumes a definite bed at Rudau, 5 miles to the south of Shikohabad, but its drainage extends almost as far as the

railway line west of Shikohabad, and includes that of the Aonri and Dundiamai cuts. The Patsui nala, so called in canal department phraseology, starts in mauza Bhandri near Patsui, south of the canal between Shikohabad and Sirsaganj, and flows as an artificial drainage line to mauza Galpura near Bhadan, where it meets the Jahmai, Ujrai, Alampur, and Nagla Tal drainage cuts. Here these fall into a natural ravine running south of Bhadan into mauza Mai where the ravines terminate in the Jamna. Both these ravines are causes of serious erosion to the alluvial plateau on either side of them and schemes for controlling them are in hand. Not only these but the minor Jamna ravines also are gradually and irresistibly encroaching on the level plateau and furnish an engineering problem of some importance.

The Kali Nadi.

The Kali Nadi forms the north-eastern boundary of the district, separating it from Etah and Farrukhabad. It is a narrow stream, but perennial, and even during the spring and summer months is only fordable at certain places. There is a bridge of five 48 feet spans on the Farrukhabad road near the village of Sakat Bewar and the railway to Farrukhabad crosses it at Dayanatnagar Mota by a bridge of ten spans of 70 feet; elsewhere it is crossed only by ferries at Allupura, Hannu Khera, Bhanau, Rajghat (controlled by the Mainpuri District Board), Debinagar and Partabpur in the Etah district, and Rupnagar in Farrukhabad. Even in the rains the current is not strong and the river bed shifts but little. It runs through a belt of low alluvial soil which is bounded on either side by high steep bluffs of sand. Sometimes the river keeps a middle course between these sand ranges, but oftener keeps close to one of them, throwing the whole of the *khadir* to the other side. This alluvial land often extends to a width of half a mile, and, owing to the height of the banks, was not formerly subject to annual inundations except near Jamlapur, to the north of pargana Kuraoli. Of late years, however, considerable flooding has taken place from the use of the river as a canal escape. The steep character of the banks in many places precludes the possibility of any benefit being derived from the river, either as a depositor of alluvial soil or as a source of irrigation, during its course through

Kuraoli, but further east the *khadir* becomes more uniform, and from its inherent moisture requires little irrigation. It is in its glory in bad seasons when the rains have been very light; when the rainfall is above the average, the soil becomes water-logged, *reh* is thrown to the surface, and the seed germinates but sparsely. Water is found close to the surface all over the *khadir*, often at a depth of only a few inches, and where wells are néeded they can be dug in a good firm soil. Latterly during years of drought chain pumps have been found useful, and in places canal water finds its way into the *tarai*. The Nadrai Aqueduct flood of 1885, which is mentioned in Chapter II, caused immense damage to the land and houses of the *khadir* and swept away the bridge near Sakat Bewar.

The Isan.

Next to the Kali comes the Isan, which is here a considerable stream, fordable only in a few places in the rains. But during the remainder of the year the volume of running water is small, and in years of unusual drought there is no apparent stream, but the pools that remain are fed by springs. It is bridged in five places: twice close to the civil station of Mainpuri, at the Debi temple on the Mainpuri-Kuraoli road, close to Mainpuri, at Madhan on the Ghiror and Kuraoli road and at Kusmara on the Etawah and Farrukhabad road. During the first part of its course, and to within four miles of its junction with the Kak Nadi about three miles north-west of Mainpuri, it runs through a loam and *usar* country, has a comparatively shallow bed, and often overflows the neighbouring lands in time of flood. Here it has a considerable expanse of lowlying alluvial land of tolerably good character along its banks, but during the dry season the water is too scanty and uncertain to admit of its being used for irrigation. Beyond this point the character of the stream and the aspect of the country through which it flows change completely. The bed becomes deeper, the banks more steep, and the current stronger, while the area of inundation is considerably confined. Instead of *usar*, high banks of white and undulating sand appear, and the soil for a long distance on either side is light and mixed with sand. Not only is the area of alluvial land very much smaller, but the deposit left by the river has a larger proportion of sand in it and is not

so highly prized, except close to Mainpuri and some of the larger villages on its bank where a near market makes it valuable for growing melons and hot-weather vegetables. There are a few places where the Isan spreads out for several hundred yards, and a few where deep pools exist all the year round. In favourable seasons it is fordable during the rains; but as a rule bamboo rafts, supported on earthen vessels, are used for crossing. From Mainpuri downwards the river is a good deal used for irrigation, though the sandy ridges along its banks often prove an insurmountable obstacle, and occasionally earthen embankments are constructed at Unchha Islamabad near the Farrukhabad border and another is regularly constructed every year just beyond the border.

The Arind or Rind.

The Arind (or Rind as it is called further down its course) is a very insignificant stream in this district, which it enters to the north of pargana Mustafabad, between the Etawah and Cawnpore branches of the Ganges Canal, and traverses in an exceedingly sinuous course from the extreme north-west to the extreme south-east corner. A straight line from its point of entry to its point of exit is almost the longest which could be drawn on the district map. In seasons of ordinary rainfall it dries up after the rains, and very often throughout the first half of its course its bed even is cultivated with *rabi* crops. Of late years its use as a canal escape has compelled the cultivators to abandon this practice to a great extent, but the benefit which the adjoining lands derive from the water more than compensates for the small area thus rendered unfit for cultivation. Temporary earthen embankments are constructed, as in the Isan, but to a greater extent. The Arind is said to be fordable everywhere during the rains, but in times of very high flood it can only be crossed in certain places. It presents a striking contrast to the Kali and Isan. It has a singularly winding course, following every slight depression in the surface of the country, and sometimes returning on itself. In the Ghiror pargana, for instance, it was found by actual measurement that its course was close upon three times as long as a straight line between the two extreme points. The stream is therefore even in the height of the rains a sluggish one, the bed shallow and little below the level of the

surrounding country. Hence its floods spread wide and form a broad sheet of lazily moving water which, on subsiding, fertilizes the country over which it has passed with a rich alluvial deposit, very different from the frequently sandy and gritty deposit of the Isan. Moreover, the whole country traversed by the Rind is exceptionally free from sandy soil. It flows through that part of the district in which *usar* loam and clay are the constituent soils, and the *bhur* ranges of the Kali Nadi and Isan are nowhere met with along its bank. Near its point of departure from the district, in the Kishni pargana, a remarkable change comes over the stream; its bed becomes deeper and straighter, its current more rapid, its deposit less fertile and its inundation-area more confined, thus preparing for the development of sand-hills and even ravines which are found further on in the Etawah district. The only bridges over the Arind are on the metalled roads, at Parham, Kalhor, Ghitauli, and Arsara near Gopalpur, also the Lower Ganges Feeder Canal traverses it by means of a syphon, in connection with which the river bed has been trained and deepened.

The Sengar.

This, though smaller than the Isan, is a much more important stream than that just described. Entering the district on its north-western frontier, in pargana Mustafabad, it drains the whole of the extensive watershed lying between the Arind and the Sirsa, and is never dry except in years of extreme drought, while its volume is considerably increased in wet seasons by escape water from the canal. In the upper portion of its course it comprises two branches, the Sengar proper to the north and the Senhar or "second Sengar" to the south. These unite at Kheria on the confines of pargana Mustafabad and up to their point of junction resemble the Arind in the country through which they pass and the excellence of their *tarai*; but beyond the confluence poor soil and sand ridges begin to appear along the banks, the stream increases in rapidity, its bed becomes deeper, and small ravines shoot out at right angles from it, which, further on, in the Etawah district, almost rival those of the Jamna in depth and wildness. Both branches in several places stretch out into wide expanses, such as those of Pilakhtar Fateh and Dundi on the Sengar proper, and Dihuli on the Senhar,

As a source of irrigation, the Sengar is, during the lower part of its course, even less important than the other rivers, while in the upper portion the smallness of the supply renders it almost useless for this purpose. The Sengar is bridged on the metalled roads at Jasrana and Azamabad Araon, and the Senhar at Aturra; while near Karhal on the Sirsaganj-Karhal road there is a fair weather bridge. Both these streams like the Sirsa are crossed by the main Bhognipur canal.

The Sirsa. The Sirsa enters the Mainpuri district at the south-west corner of pargana Mustafabad close to Siaori, approaches Shikohabad after passing under the Bhognipur canal and thence runs between and parallel with the Etawah road and the canal. Its drainage area in this district is restricted, and it runs through an almost continuously cultivated tract characterised by a light soil of sand and loam. There is little *usar* along its banks, and sandy ridges are only met with close to the town of Shikohabad. Little water remains in its bed after the cessation of the rains, the supply being barely sufficient to irrigate the *tarai* or lowlying lands on each side of the stream. The banks are well defined and the alluvial land is more extensire and more fertile than that along the Sengar. The soil, which is naturally excellent, receives moisture by percolation from the Bhognipur canal and hardly requires any irrigation in ordinary years, when it produces luxuriant *rabi* crops, and there is no doubt that the river bed will have to be deepened to prevent *reh* at Bhadan and other villages due to this percolation spreading. There are bridges on each of the roads leading to the railway stations of Bhadan, Kaurara (Sirsaganj) and Shikohabad, and on the Agra road; and even in the rains it is fordable in many places.

Minor streams. Among the minor streams, the Aganga is a small and unimportant drainage line which takes its rise in a tank near the town of Shikohabad, runs through parganas Shikohabad and Barnahal and falls into the Sengar a few hundred yards within the Etawah district. For the first half of its length it is merely the connecting link between a series of marshes, and it is often difficult to trace its course; but, towards its junction with the Sengar, its bed is deep and well defined, and sand ridges and even small ravines are developed along its banks. It dries up immediately after

the rains and is consequently useless for irrigation purposes. Like the other streams, it also has its narrow belt of *tarai* land, which is very fair indeed except at its approach to the Sengar, where the soil becomes barren and denuded. A large portion of its bed is under cultivation during the *rabi* season. The Kak or Kak Nadi, a tributary of the Isan, which it strongly resembles in every respect, rises in pargana Sakit of the Etah district and, after a somewhat winding course through parganas Kuraoli and Mainpuri, joins the Isan near Gopalpur, a short distance north-west of the town of Mainpuri. The Chhaha Nala starts in the Sultanganj drainage cut on the Bewar canal and joins the Isan near Gobindpur three miles south of Bhongaon. The Rasemar Nala conveys the drainage from the Rasemar *jhil* on the Mainpuri-Kuraoli road into the Kak Nadi. The Nandia or Fatehpur Nala and the Patsui Nala described above in connection with the Jamna are merely the largest and the most important of the many torrents which carry off to the Jamna the superfluous water not absorbed by the soil after any heavy rainfall. They rise rapidly and flow violently for a few hours, and then as suddenly cease. The Ujhiani Nala starts near Bujhia in mauza Urthan in pargana Karhal and drains the area between the Takhrau and Karhal distributaries. Between Pasupur and Ujhiani the stream lies to the east of the Takhrau distributary under which it passes twice at the points above-mentioned by means of syphons. At Ujhiani the stream commences to have a marked bed and, crossing the Karhal road near Heonra inspection house in the Etawah district, joins the Sengar two miles further on. The Puraha has two sources, one at Buna five miles north-west of Kurra in pargana Karhal and the other at Timrakh three miles to the north of Kurra. The Timrakh *jhil* and the Sauj and Saman lakes are connected by the Saman Nala, which flows through the western limb of the latter lake and unites with the eastern branch of the stream beyond the tail of the Sauj minor in mauza Karri in pargana Etawah. The eastern branch is called the Karri Nala. The Ahnaiya lies to the west of the Bansak distributary and between it and the main canal. These three streams, tributaries of the Arind, have scarcely any existence in this district and it is not until they

have passed into the Etawah district that they assume any importance. It is only in the rains that they are distinguishable as streams, but at other seasons they are marked by detached *jhils* or lakes. All the minor streams and drainage lines are devoid of water during the dry season and during the rains they offer no impediment to communications.

Lakes and Marshes.

Mainpuri abounds in swamps and marshes, particularly in its central portion, but few of them are of sufficient size or permanence to deserve the name of lake. Mention will only be made here of the more considerable ones, and for the others reference should be made to the accounts of parganas. In all 36,870 acres are recorded in the revenue records as under water. This figure, which includes the rivers, describes the area which in a normal year is from this cause rendered incapable of cultivation, but there are numbers of depressions which, at the end of the rains and during the early cold weather, are covered with water, but are brought under the plough for the *rabi* crop. Even the largest, as they are seldom supplied from springs, are liable, in years of excessive drought, to dry up altogether, or to become mere ponds. There are two lakes of fair size in pargana Kuraoli, at Panwah and Rasemar, both connected with the Kak Nadi, by which they are alternately filled and emptied. During the rains it pours into them its overflow, which later on its diminished stream drains off. The former, now divided in two by the Bewar canal, covers 176 acres with a depth of 3 to 4 feet of water in the cold weather, but during the summer much of this is lost. The northern portion is now drained. The latter, with a maximum length of nearly two miles and breadth of about 400 yards, also dwindles rapidly after the cessation of the rains. In pargana Mainpuri is the Karimganj *jhil*, nearly a mile in length by 300 yards in breadth, covering an area of 79 acres, which is, however, materially decreased in the hot weather. There is also a long narrow lake of considerable size to the south-west of Mainpuri city, between it and the Cawnpore branch of the Ganges canal, which drains by two cuts towards the Isan. Pargana Bhongaon is full of large stretches of water. North-east of the civil station and in close proximity are the Airwa and Sikandarpur *jhils*, and to the east of the Grand Trunk road, at Kinawar, is a marsh

65 acres in extent. Others are to be found further south and east at Bhanwat, Rui, Manchhana and Pundri. East again, in Kishni-Nabiganj, is the more important lake of Janaura with an area of 208 acres and a depth of 12 feet, situated in the centre of a sandy tract. This lake was drained into the Kali Nadi by a syphon under the Bewar canal, but the syphon was closed up. It is, however, proposed to drain it again in the same way. Close by, and connected with the last named, lies the Chirawar *jhil* extending over 116 acres. Still further south in the same pargana is found a group of extensive lakes: Saman, 233 acres in area and 25 feet in depth, Pharenji, and Basait. There is a *jhil* at Paraunkha in Bewar pargana, and in Ghiror there are several shallow *jhils*, the largest being at Pachawar, Bidhuna and Bigrai. Mustafabad, again, is full of swamps, but all, except Utrara, are of minor importance, drying up with great rapidity. On the right bank of the Etawah branch of the Ganges canal, in the extreme north-east of pargana Barnahal, lies the Saj Hajipur *jhil*, covering 61 acres. In Karhal pargana there are numerous lakes and marshes, the sources of the Ahnaiya, Puraha and Ujhiani streams. Of these the most important are the Deokali, 62 acres in area, and very deep, and the Sauj, of about 149 acres, which drains into the great Saman lake and is also connected with the neighbouring Harer reservoir. The latter is long and narrow like most of the lakes in this district, but of great depth. Close by is the Timrakh lake with an area of 92 acres. The Shikohabad pargana contains a few *jhils* to the north, among which the Sarakh and Baijua may be mentioned. All these lakes and marshes expand very considerably during the rains, and few of them dry up altogether except in seasons of intense drought but generally keep a good supply of water through the hot weather. The figures given above are estimates of the superficial area of the water remaining at the end of the cold weather and can only be taken as approximate, varying as they do with the character of the lake and the nature of the rainfall.

Drainage.

The general slope of the country, as has been already described, is from north-west to south-east, and this is the direction in which the rivers run and which is therefore followed in the main by the drainage. There are, however, numerous inequalities

of surface caused by the greater or less elevation of the river beds and by the sand ridges, and the general disposition of the drainage differs somewhat in different portions of the district. In the central tract, which lies highest, the main drainage arteries are the Isan and the Arind. The bed of the former has a somewhat greater fall than that of the latter. In their course through the west of the district the Isan is only 4·7 feet below the Arind, but opposite Mainpuri the difference has increased to 15·46 feet, and at Tarha to 16·68. The Bewar branch canal, running through the north of the central tract, follows the watershed of the Kali and Isan rivers, and most of the drainage in this north-eastern portion now falls into the Isan and not into the Kali Nadi. South of the central tract the natural drains are the Arind and the Sengar, and the Etawah canal, which keeps to the watershed as far as Gangsi, does not interfere with them up to that point. But from this point southwards there is an important change in the level of the country which leads to the development of a series of new drainage lines. Pargana Karhal has been seriously affected by the canal. The Arind has now to carry off a portion of the water which formerly fell into the Sengar. The Kankan and Ratbhanpur drainage, which formerly joined it, is now impeded by the Gangsi and Bansak *rajbahas*, and has to find its way as best it can into the Arind. The drainage area of the Puraha, though not obstructed by the canal, is so uniformly level and has such a gentle slope that it is hardly more than a chain of pools and only runs as a stream in the rains. To the west of the Sengar the drainage naturally falls into the Sengar and Sirsa with the latter's tributary the Aganga. South of the Bhognipur Canal the drainage lines slope towards the Jamna ravines. The Kali and Isan and their catchment basins all belong to the Ganges system, and all the other rivers to that of the Jamna.

Drainage lines.

These natural drainage lines have been to a great extent interfered with by the canals, and resort has therefore been had to artificial channels. It will be most convenient to consider those in connection with the various canals. In the central tract, where the Cawnpore branch follows the watershed of the Isan and Arind, several artificial channels have been made to

induce the obstructed drainage to fall into one or other of these rivers. To the left bank of the canal are cuts at Bharera (in Etah), Sathni Dalippur, Nagla Gulal (Karaoli), Nagla Gulabi (Nagla Achal), Raihar (Sobhanpur), Pusena, Bhanwat, Singhpur (Mehdipur), and Ajitganj, leading into the Isan. The second of these acts slowly and is incapable of carrying off flood water while the Isan is in spate, to the occasional detriment of the countryside. On the other bank drains have been dug at Pachawar, Rustampur, Kasardh, Chinari, Nagla Sujanpur (Bhanwat) and Sathgawan into the Arind, which has been widened near Gopalpur and Uresar in connection with the Arind Nadi improvement. There are two syphons under the Tarha distributary, and along the Etawah branch, especially in the south-eastern portion, a considerable amount of artificial drainage has been found necessary. There are drainage cuts at Jodhpur (Farida Paindhat), Patikra, Kusiari, Jarari (Kosma), Dibrauli, Sikandarpur Patara, and Gangsi, into the Arind, and at Koson, Jawapur, Agrapur, Urthan, Nitaoli, Begampur, and Karhal into the Sengar. There are also numerous syphons on the distributaries of this branch. The Bhognipur branch below Jera (Eka) crosses by syphons the Sengar at Yaghmurpur Pabrai, the Senhar at Dihuli, and the Sirsa at Araunj near Shikohabad. Near Raseni the Sengar has been improved, this work being maintained by the Aligarh division, and two cuts on either side of the canal join the river at its crossing. The Bhogpur and Fatehpur Katena drainage is syphoned under the canal at the 12th mile and flows northward into the Sengar. There is a small drain at Chhichhamai near Shikohabad falling into the Sirsa on its right bank and on the left bank is the Nagla Balua drain. The Aonri and Dundiamai drains fall into the Nandia ravine at Siarmau Ram Lal and the Kesri drain meets the same ravine in Fatehpur Karkha, whence their drainage falls into the Jamna, cutting with disastrous effect through the fertile *bhagna* of Punchha. From Bhandri eastwards the country along the main canal suffered severely from waterlogging in the wet period culminating in 1894 and numerous drains have been dug to give relief and prevent the growth of *reh*, which seems to have been unknown prior to the construction of this canal. On the north of the canal are the Surajpur,

Ahmadpur, Chirhaoli and Bachhemai drainage cuts flowing into the Sirsa, and on the south flowing into the Patsui Nala are the Patsui, Ujrai, Jahemai, Amhaur, Rajaura, Bachhemai, Nagla Tal, Alampur Jhapta, Lahtai, and Machhela (Galpura) drains. There are syphons under the Ahmadpur, Surajpur, Khonrai Bhadan, Ujrai, Ubti, Nain, and Hanwantkhera distributaries, and a syphon under the main canal at Aswa. On the Bewar branch there are drains into the Kali Nadi at Panwahi, in connection with the Saraiya (Sarai Latif) escape, Walipur, Sirsa, Lahra, Bilon, Rajwana, Chaumajhi, Bewar, Sakat Bewar, Bajhera, Todarpur and Janaura. The last named used to pass under the Nigoh distributary through mauza Nabiganj, but some years ago this channel was stopped owing to the damage done, but it will be re-opened shortly. On the right bank flowing into the Isan or its tributaries are cuts at Rampura (flowing into the Kak), Sultanganj (connected with the Chhachha Nala), Bajhera (running parallel to and west of the Etawah-Farrukhabad road), and Arjunpur. A project has been originated to divert the Kak Nadi under the Bewar branch at Kuraoli, with a view to mitigate the floods in the Isan valley, particularly at Mainpuri, where parts of the town and civil station were submerged in October 1903. The Lower Ganges canal has a drainage cut at Sarabpur (Eka), draining Eka, Uresar, and the neighbourhood, syphoning under the canal at Sarabpur and joining the Arind between Uresar and Eka. It also crosses the Arind by a syphon. The civil station of Mainpuri has two drains, carrying the water from two depressions near the police lines into the Isan, and a third drain connects with these two on the Bhongaon road. These drains are controlled by the Collector, and not the Canal department, as is the case with all the other drains described above.

Waste land. The area of non-culturable land in the district recorded at the recent settlement is 336,467 acres as against 347,600 acres at the last. Of this 13,434 acres were classified as "village site", 36,870 acres as "covered with water", and the rest as otherwise barren. At the previous settlement the area shown as village site was 13,096 acres, while that covered by water was 21,142 acres. The decrease in the total barren area is perhaps to be attributed, like the corresponding decrease in the total area, to

the more accurate measurement of a professional survey; and the same explanation may account for the increase in the area under water.

The barren land consists for the most part of *usar* plains, which extend for miles in certain portions of the loam tract, chiefly in parganas Mainpuri, Ghiror, Bhongaon, Karhal, Kishni, the north of Barnahal and Mustafabad. They present a most desolate aspect and are absolutely irreclaimable. They are of little use for anything but pasture, and for that only during and immediately after the rains. In certain parts they are covered with the saline efflorescence known as *reh*, which is used for manufacturing glass and for other purposes.

Jungles.

A considerable area of the barren land is covered with *dhak* jungle, the remains of the ten *kos* belt of jungle which formerly ran through Etawah, Mainpuri, Etah, Aligarh and Bulandshahr. At Uresar and Eka in the north of Mustafabad, there are patches, 150 and 200 acres in extent, covered with *dhak* jungle, and at Akbarpur Auncha there is a long strip of some thousands of acres, interspersed with cultivation. Other fairly extensive stretches of the same jungle are to be met with near Rasemar, Jawapur, Bidhuna and Pundri, while near Saman and Sauj, in the south-east of the district, there is, besides much *dhak* jungle, a great deal of waste land covered with the coarse grass known locally as *ganra* (*gandar*) or *sinkh*. The *ganra* is used for thatching and for making ropes and mats, and is often leased for from one to three rupees a bigha. The lower pointed leaves are known as *patel* and are used for thatching; the leaves close to the stalk are called *munj* and used for rope-making; the flower-stalks without the *munj* are called *sirki*, and with it are known as *senta*. The former is used for ceilings and, instead of a tarpaulin, as a hood for carts, and the latter is made into coils and placed on the rafters of houses to prevent the roofing clay from falling through. The value of the *dhak* timber when cut for fuel varies greatly with the distance from places where it can be used and the means of communication. Rs. 18 per 100 maunds is a fair average price. The *babul* grows in large clumps on the *usar* plains, and is, indeed, the only tree which flourishes on them. Its cultivation has for some time past been encouraged

by the increase of moisture due to the canals and the great demand for wood both for fuel and carpentry. Its timber is hard and close-grained and is much used for building purposes, fuel and charcoal. Its bark is employed in tanning, and its gum in dyeing and in medicine, so that now it is not uncommon to see plantations wherever the surface of the *usar* receives more than the average share of moisture.

Groves.

Mainpuri is a well-wooded district on the whole apart from the comparatively bare *usar* plains. In addition to the tree-jungle and the *babul* which has already been described, it is abundantly provided with groves of fruit and timber trees, and with avenues, among which those in the neighbourhood of Mainpuri town are particularly worthy of remark for their fine *shishams.* According to the figures of the recent settlement, there would appear to have been some diminution in the area planted with trees during the last few years, only 17,573 acres being shown as against 18,818 acres at the previous survey. But as the later figure excludes orchards and areas either newly planted or almost denuded of trees, the falling-off may be rather apparent than real. These plantations consist for the most part of mango and *shisham*, though the *jamun*, guava, orange, pomegranate and custard-apple are also plentiful, and are only established with considerable trouble and expense. But, once established, they are exceedingly profitable, the mango being here particularly luxuriant and productive, while the *shisham* grows to perfection and supplies valuable timber.

Precarious tracts.

The district, if anything, suffers more from wet seasons than dry ones. The history of recent famines as the result of drought has shown that they hardly affected the district and least of all the agriculturists. In fact the district is among the most secure from drought in the whole of the provinces. Still, there are some villages that are insufficiently protected by irrigation, notably those of the Isan-Kali Nadi Duab and those along the edge of the Jamna. In the Jamna tract irrigation is possible and wells are practicable, but the depth of the water from the surface, amounting to from 50 to 100 feet, reduces the irrigated area. Canals have been extended as far as levels permit. But there are villages that are not commanded or lying only at the

edge or tail of a channel and receiving thereby only a small or irregular supply. A further extension of canals is desirable, as well as means for lifting canal water, but with the present restricted supply from the Ganges nothing can be done but to wait for the completion of the Sarda Feeder Canal. Most of the Jamna villages are provided with alluvial riverain strips in the Jamna *tarai* which as a rule require no irrigation and in these the villagers depend largely for a livelihood on their dairy produce, so that a failure of crops owing to drought in the uplands of the village is not such a serious calamity as at first sight appears. In the northern sandy tract the most precarious villages are those along the Isan or Kali Nadi which are neither commanded by the canal or whose subsoil is incompatible with spring wells. In some villages, too, the surface soil is of poor sandy quality and not worth irrigating even if that were possible.

The same remarks as regards the extension of the canal to the Jamna villages apply to these also and moreover much can be done with special kinds of wells suited to such sandy subsoils. The precarious villages of this group are much fewer in number and more scattered and also much less precarious than the Jamna villages. Pargana Barnahal, which depends almost entirely on earthen wells, has been suspected to be precarious as regards the water-supply in the wells, but the experience of dry seasons of late has shown that this suspicion is groundless, though perhaps a run of dry seasons would bring down the water-level to a dangerously low point. It is probably no more precarious than the rest of the earthen well tract between the Sirsa and the Sengar.

In wet years the northern sandy tract, particularly the portion lying north of the Grand Trunk road, suffers from the overgrowth of *kans* grass, and the cultivated area tends to decline; the Kali Nadi *tarai* especially is liable to the evil effects of super-saturation, so much so that in 1877 and in 1887 the revenue of many villages was reduced. Another tract liable to ill effects from wet seasons is a group of villages along the Bhognipur canal near Bhadan, where the increase of *reh* is giving rise to anxiety, but it is hoped that drainage works will remove the cause, super-saturation from the Bhognipur Branch. A good deal has been done in this direction of late years, but it is

difficult to provide any remedy for the growth of *kans* or super-saturation of the Kali Nadi *tarai*. *Reh* and the *baisuri* weed render some villages precarious, for details of which see Chapter II.

Building materials.

Walls are made of clay in ordinary village houses. But in towns they are generally made of burnt bricks, which are of two kinds, the old type measuring 9 × 4 × 1½ inches called *raddi* or *bharra*, and the bricks of English size called *gumma*, measuring 9 × 4¼ × 2¾ inches. The former are burnt in kilns with village rubbish and cattle dung, and are sold at Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 per 1,000. They are generally used in private houses. The *gummas* are burnt in Bull's patent kilns with coal dust, and only in exceptional cases in the ordinary square kiln. They are sold at Rs. 10 per 1,000. Bricks for wells *(garand)* are made specially. Their length varies according to the diameter of the well, and is a fourth or fifth part of the circumference, their thickness and breadth varying between 4 inches and 5 inches. They have notches and dowels at their ends by which they fit into each other. They sell for 1 anna to 1½ anna each. Clay for good bricks has to be selected, as that containing *reh* or too much sand or stiff clay would not answer. For the country pattern bricks, the silt clay in the bottom of village tanks is used. Fuel for brick-burning has become very scarce of late years owing to the comparatively small area under tree jungle, and fire-wood can only be obtained by cutting down planted trees, and is therefore very expensive, costing about three to five maunds to the rupee. Village rubbish for the country kilns, also, has to be paid for although in former times it could be had for the collecting only. These facts, together with the general rise in wages all round, have caused an increase in the rates of bricks from Rs. 8 ten years ago to Rs. 10 now. Lime is made from *kankar* which is abundant in the district. It is burnt with coke, and in places away from the railway with wood. It sells at Rs. 20 per 100 maunds. Block kankar *(silia)* is also used for walls, especially for foundations and abutments and piers of bridges. Good varieties of it are found in the district in the *usar* plains. It sells at Rs. 10 to 15 per 100 cubic feet cut and dressed and makes a good substitute for stone. The rate for

quarrying (without cartage) is Rs. 2 per hundred square feet, exclusive of dressing, a skilled job performed by masons as a rule. Stone is not found in the district or anywhere near. For bedplates under girders and for corbels or floor slabs it is obtained from Agra, where it comes from the Dholpur State. Stone can also be imported from Lalitpur. It is sold at Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8 per cubic foot cut and dressed. Roofs are often made of clay resting on *jamun* planks or bricks which are supported by rafters or *bargahs*, the latter again resting on wooden beams. This is the simplest form of roof and can be made with materials found on the spot. In villages also rolls of *sarkanda* grass are used in place of the planks. In poorer houses thatch is used. In substantial and permanent houses the roofs are made of tiles which are obtained from Cawnpore. They sell at from Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 per 1,000. Small tiles are made locally and sell from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per 1,000. The timber used in building is *nim*, *shisham*, *jamun*, mango and *babul*. All are abundant in the district and sell at Re. 1-8-0 to Rs. 2 per cubic foot except *shisham*, which sells at Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per cubic foot. *Sal* is used in more important structures. It is obtained from Agra or Cawnpore and sells at Rs. 4 per cubic foot. Iron beams are becoming the fashion in the more pretentious buildings and sell at Rs. 7 per maund in Mainpuri. In Government buildings iron is often used in place of timber under large sized tiles. It costs Rs. 10 per maund. Road metal is represented by the *bichua* or nodulated variety of *kankar* (lime-stone) found in *usar* plains like block *kankar*, or underlying *dumat* soil in their vicinity. The rate for quarrying and breaking to size (two inches) is Re. 1-8 per hundred cubic feet, including a royalty of 4 annas, if found in fields, or 2 annas if found in *usar*, payable to the landowner. The same royalty is payable on block *kankar*.

Fauna. The district is not remarkable for wild animals, though several species are found in it. Large herds of black buck roam over the extensive *usar* plains, more especially in the west of the district, where they do no small damage to the crops. The wild and broken country of the Jamna ravines harbours considerable numbers of hyænas and an occasional panther, while

chinkara may from time to time be met with there. The hyæna also frequents the central portion of the district. Wolves are fairly common throughout the district, and a reward of ten rupees is offered for the destruction of a full-grown animal. The same price is set upon the head of the leopard, the hyæna only fetching one fifth as much. The average amount paid yearly in rewards during a period of six years was Rs. 148 and the average number of reported deaths caused by wild animals and snakes during the same period was 40. A few *nilgai (Boselaphus tragocamelus)* are to be found in the *dhak* jungles. The commoner kinds of game-birds are fairly plentiful all over the district, and in the cold weather the numerous *jhils* and lakes attract large numbers of wildfowl and snipe. Pigeons are exceedingly common in the south owing to the large number of earthen wells where they resort. The peacock is met with everywhere, but is regarded as a sacred bird and protected. Black partridge are to be found along the Kali Nadi only, and grey partridge, though met with everywhere, are very plentiful along the Jamna ravines. Crocodiles and alligators abound in the Jamna and Kali Nadi, and occasionally are seen in the canals.

Fisheries. The *rohu*, *parhin*, *sauli* and *sing* are the fish most commonly caught for food, and are sold at rates varying from one to two annas a *ser*. All castes and religions, with the exception of Brahmans, Jains and certain of the Bania caste, eat fish, and there is thus a very considerable demand. The fishing rights on most of the tanks and rivers are leased to Kahars, who often pay high prices for the privilege. The best fishing is on the Kali and Isan, and in the cold weather *parhin* and mullet from half a pound to three pounds in weight may be taken there with the rod. *Mahseer* have been occasionally caught in the canals. The modes of fishing in vogue do not differ from those employed in other districts, the sweep-net, hand-net, funnel-net (*hilka*), basket (*khoncha)* and dam *(band)*, being all made use of according to circumstances and locality. There is no fish-preserving, and young fry are destroyed in large numbers at the beginning of the hot weather by embanking the streams and employing a funnel-shaped net. During the rains fish are

Cattle.

considered impure by most classes and are then seldom to be found for sale in the markets.

There are no peculiar breeds of domestic cattle in the district, and the animals are for the most part of the ordinary type, bred from the dedicated Brahmini bull. Some attempts have, however, been made to improve the breed, and have met with a fair measure of success. In 1870 three stud bulls were imported from Hissar, two of them a cross between a Nagor bull and a Mysore cow, and the third a cross between a Nagor bull and a Hariana cow. There was a great demand for their services and the experiment was a success. Again, the Court of Wards recently brought in two stud bulls, one of the Khairigarh and the other of the Kosi breed, which stood at Barauli and Arjunpur respectively. The Khairigarh bull produced good stock and was popular. There is an important cattle market at Sirsaganj, which supplies all animals for agricultural purposes to this and the neighbouring districts. Other important cattle markets are at Ghiror and Karhal. The returns of the recent cattle census in 1909 showed the district to contain 141,709 bullocks, 56,087 cows, 128,756 buffaloes, 152,813 young bullocks, calves and buffalo calves. There were 82,863 ploughs and 12,295 carts. There are herds of wild cattle in several parts of the district, the largest being located near Jasrana and Ghiror.

Horses and ponies.

In 1909 there were 17,729 horses, ponies and mares in the district. The stock is poor, and the results of past efforts to improve it have not been encouraging. It would seem that the climate is too dry and the grazing too scanty for successful horse-breeding. There were formerly about six private stallions and four Government ones kept in the district, but now not more than two are still in private hands and only one is maintained by the district board. Common country ponies of small size sell at prices ranging between Rs. 5 and Rs. 15, while large ones fetch from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. The supply of horses is replenished from the Batesar fair.

Other domestic animals.

Of the other domestic animals, sheep in 1909 numbered 37,257 and goats 156,572. The former are kept both for wool and slaughter, and sell for prices varying from 12 annas to 3 rupees. The improvement of the breed has hitherto received but

little attention, though a fruitless effort in this direction was made in 1870, when two English rams, a Leicester and a Southdown, were imported, but died soon after their arrival. The goats known both here and in the Etawah district as the Jamnapari breed are greatly prized and fetch high prices, but the ordinary kinds of goat can be bought for from one to five rupees. Camels are seldom bred in the district, the great source of supply for them being the Batesar fair. There were 995 of them in 1909. Donkeys, of which there were 8,285, are of the ordinary under-sized type so common in the country, and call for no special comment.

Cattle Disease.

There is always a certain amount of cattle disease in the district, but the statistics are not to be relied upon, except, to a small degree, in the case of the contagious diseases specially reported. Of these the most serious have, in recent years, been rinderpest and foot and mouth disease, both of which broke out as severe epidemics in 1900-1901, when 752 attacks of the former, with 328 deaths, and 411 attacks of the latter, with 145 deaths, were reported. The epidemic of rinderpest affected chiefly the tahsils of Bhongaon, Mainpuri and Karhal, and foot and mouth disease those of Bhongaon and Mainpuri. A veterinary assistant is entertained by the district board for the purpose of dealing with such outbreaks, but his services are little in request owing to the ignorance and apathy of the people; a veterinary hospital in charge of another assistant has begun to do useful work in Mainpuri.

Climate.

The climate of Mainpuri resembles that of the Duab districts generally and presents no peculiar features. In the hot weather the thermometer often rises above 110°F. in the shade, touching occasionally 120°, and the mean temperature for June during the last three years has been 96·3°, while the corresponding figure for January has been 58·6°. The district is liable to severe frosts in the cold weather, one of the worst on record having occurred at the beginning of February 1905, causing widespread damage to the *rabi* crop and young plantations and destroying the *arhar*. Hailstorms also are of common occurrence in March and April. During the hot weather the west wind (generally north of west) blows constantly and with great violence, imparting an intense

dryness to the atmosphere and rendering possible the almost continual use of grass *tattis.* Duststorms are not infrequent during the same period. In the rainy season the prevailing wind is from the east.

Rainfall.

Records of the rainfall are available from 1844, and exhibit very marked variations. The average fall during the six years 1844-45 to 1849-50 was only 20·95 inches. Between 1860 and 1873 it was 32·1 inches, or only one inch above the district average. During the wet decade 1881-90, so disastrous to the district through floods and waterlogging, the average annual fall rose to 34·92, exceeding forty inches in four of the years, while in 1885, the year of the Nadrai aqueduct disaster, Bhongaon received 55·95 inches, the highest figure yet recorded in any tahsil. The next ten years, from 1891 to 1900, witnessed a return to the normal with an average of 31·11, the one year of deficit, 1896, when only 14·17 inches were recorded, being compensated by 1894, when the fall was 43·91. The first eight years of the present century have been unusually dry, the heaviest fall being 33·06 inches in 1906, while in 1905 only 13·06 inches were recorded for the whole district, and the average for the period was 25·32 inches. The fluctuations in the rainfall from year to year are extreme, ranging, for the whole district, from 48·30 inches in 1861 to 11·10 inches in 1868; but between tahsil and tahsil they are small. Shikohabad generally gets a little more and Karhal a little less than the others, but the positions are not infrequently reversed. The rains normally begin in June, though of late years they have often not set in till the beginning of July, and continue till late in September, rarely lasting into October. The year 1903 afforded a marked exception to this rule, when a heavy fall in October caused high floods in all the rivers and the civil station was effectually cut off from the city of Mainpuri for several days by a deep and dangerous torrent, which swept over the road on both sides of the bridge, and submerged the eastern half of the city to a depth of 2 or 3 feet. 1867 and 1869 were also abnormal in this respect.

General health.

The district compares favourably with most other parts of the United Provinces in the matter of health. There are no diseases peculiar to the district and there are no

special features which have a bearing on the incidence of disease.

Vital Statistics.

The vital statistics for the district from 1891 onwards will be found in the appendix. It will be seen that there have been considerable variations in both the birth-rate and the death-rate during the last eighteen years, though the former has, except in 1897, 1905 and 1908, always kept well ahead of the latter. This falling off can be explained by the fact that in 1897 there was a severe outbreak of small-pox in addition to a famine, and though the district did not suffer as a whole from the scarcity, yet there was enough distress to unfavourably affect the birth-rate during the two following years. The birth-rate then rose suddenly to 50·52 per mille, the highest point it had yet reached, and did not fall seriously again until 1905, in which year there was another scarcity, and the plague epidemic was at its worst. On the whole, Mainpuri compares favourably with other districts in point of health, the average death-rate for the eighteen years since 1891 being 32·38, ranging from 20·19 in 1893 to 53·70 per mille in 1908. In 1908 the figures were abnormal, the birth-rate being only 31·74 and the death-rate rising to as high as 53·70 per 1,000; the combined result of high prices and scarcity on the one hand, and, on the other, the extremely virulent malaria epidemic that devastated these and the neighbouring provinces in the autumn of the year. It is noticeable that from 1897 onwards the recorded death-rate has been consistently higher than in the preceding period, never falling below 31 per mille, while before 1897 it had never risen as high as 27 per mille. This high death-rate has, however, been accompanied by a corresponding high birth-rate, the average births per mille for the two periods being 34·53 and 38·34. The difference in the two periods is indicative of previous bad registration.

Fever.

The principal causes to which the mortality is to be attributed are shown in Table IV of the Appendix. It will here be seen that, as is usual in this country, the vast majority of deaths are ascribed to fever, and that there has been a marked increase in the number of deaths under this head from 1897 onwards. While there is some reason to believe that the mortality from fever of the intermittent type has been increased

by the rise in the water-level which has accompanied the construction of canals in this district, it is hard to see why this rise in the death-rate should first manifest itself so long after the first introduction of canals. The figures for fever are always open to a certain amount of suspicion. The mortality statistics for the villages are derived from the reports of the village watchmen, who are in turn dependent on the information given by the family of the deceased. As fever is a symptom of a very large number of diseases, many of which are not easy of diagnosis even for experts, it is extremely probable that a large proportion of the deaths which are attributed to fever in the mortality statistics ought to be classified under other heads. The mortality from fever reached its climax in 1908, when 41,749 deaths were ascribed to this cause, and though the numbers have fluctuated a good deal before then they have never exceeded 25,000, except in 1899.

Cholera. Cholera is not as common in this district as in many others, the average mortality from this cause during the last 18 years being only 187, while but for two severe epidemics in 1892 and 1894 the figure would be very much lower. In the former year no less than 1,150 deaths were due to this cause, and in the latter year 752. Other epidemics of a less serious character occurred in 1901 and 1903, while in the intervening year the district was almost free from cholera, only 3 persons falling victims to it. In 1898 no deaths at all were recorded from cholera, and only one death in each of the years 1899 and 1905. Outbreaks of cholera have usually been traceable to bad sanitation, coupled as a rule with a dry season, the highest mortality being reached towards the end of the rains.

Small-pox. Mainpuri is generally fairly free from small-pox. In only three years out of the last eighteen have the deaths from this cause exceeded 65, while between 1898 and 1902 it was almost unknown. In 1896 and 1897 however there were serious epidemics of the disease, 1,377 persons perishing in the first and 1,699 in the second year. Another less severe epidemic occurred in 1906, when 499 persons died. The comparative immunity now enjoyed by the district from this scourge is undoubtedly due to the spread of vaccination, some 25,000 persons being as a rule

vaccinated every year. A very considerable proportion of the population is now protected and every epidemic of the disease which occurs is of gradually decreasing virulence.

Plague. The first death from plague occurred in April 1903 at Shikohabad, an imported case. Two deaths occurred a month later at Karhal, and two more in December of that year at Shikohabad. In 1904, 155 villages and towns were affected with a total mortality of 2,331, the disease seeming to spread from the Etawah direction along the main lines of communication, and having little effect on out-of-the-way tracts. In 1905 the epidemic reached its height, spreading to 1,077 out of a total of 1,388 villages in the district, and attacking every part of it, and the mortality rose to 10,886. In 1906 there was a decline, the disease seeming to have spent itself temporarily, as only 12 villages in the north of the district suffered with 172 deaths, and in the next two years, 1907 and 1908, the deaths were below 1,000, the north of the district again being the worst affected. The history of the epidemic shows that it originated in the south along the railway line, being imported by refugees from infected districts. The spread of the disease was rapid and general over the whole district, but in the fourth year it began to abate, those parts which were first affected being the first to recover. In the following year it was almost extinguished, and though it has once more begun to increase in virulence it has done so much more slowly than on its first introduction. The obvious inference is that the population together with rats which are the vehicles of the disease were both or either immunised by some natural process. Artificial means of combating plague were resorted to here, as elsewhere, with little success, chiefly owing to the apathy of the people towards rat killing and inoculation, but as a rule the villagers recognise the value of evacuation and generally practise it. The epidemic is confined to the first four or five months of the year, though during the early part of the cold weather isolated mild cases occur among human beings, and a few rats die in places.

Other diseases. Dysentery and bowel complaints are common diseases in the district, much more so than would appear from the statistics in the Appendix, and are responsible for a considerable number

of deaths every year. It is probable that much of the mortality which is really due to them is wrongly attributed to fever. Phthisis, tubercular diseases, and inflammatory diseases of the eye, especially that form known as granular eyelids, are not uncommon.

Infirmities.

Statistics of infirmities are collected at every census, but they are not of very much value, as it is almost impossible to check their accuracy, and the reporting agency is not of a character to inspire great confidence in its diagnosis of insanity. According to the census of 1901, the total number of afflicted persons in the district was 1,758, only seven districts returning a smaller total. As usual everywhere but in Bundelkhand, the number of males suffering from infirmities far exceeded that of females, the respective totals being 1,070 and 688. The discrepancy is probably due to concealment. Only 79 persons were reported insane, of whom 60 were males. Lepers also were few in number, only 73 being returned, of whom all but 9 were males. Deaf mutes numbered 264 and blind people 1,342, females in this case more nearly approximating to the males and amounting to over 43 per cent. of the whole.

CHAPTER II.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Cultivated area.

The agricultural history of the district exhibits very marked fluctuations from period to period in the area under cultivation. At the settlement of 1876 the cultivated area was found to be 609,642 acres, no less than 94,746 acres in excess of the area recorded at the previous settlement. During the next thirty years, however, the district underwent somewhat violent vicissitudes of fortune, and in 1885-86 the area under the plough had sunk to 574,853 acres, a diminution of nearly 6 per cent.; by 1890-1 it had further dwindled to 554,642 acres or nearly 9 per cent. less; while at the recent settlement it had risen to 590,435 acres, or still 3 per cent. below the figures of the last settlement. The present area, which represents 55·08 per cent. of the total area of the district, may probably be taken to be about the normal, that recorded at the last settlement having been attained only at the culmination of a long series of favourable seasons, and never reached before or since. The remarkable variations in the period intervening between the two settlements are accounted for by a number of serious agricultural calamities and pests. *Kans* grass was rife in the northern *bhur* tract even at the last settlement, and a continuous spread of its growth was noticed in subsequent years till it finally culminated in a terrific outburst in the wet seasons between 1885 and 1890, reducing, in the latter year, the cultivated area in the *bhur* circles of Bhongaon and Mainpuri by over 30 per cent. The valuable alluvial tract of the Kali Nadi *khadir* had not had time fully to recover from damage and deterioration caused by floods, when, in 1885, it was devastated in overwhelming fashion by the disastrous Nadrai aqueduct flood which tore along the valley in a broad, high wall of water, causing immense damage both to life and property. One effect of this flood was to damage part of this *khadir* more or less permanently by a deposit of sand, while

a series of abnormally wet years following kept the whole in the state of a reeking, useless morass. These wet years also caused much damage throughout the rest of the district by waterlogging, which was aggravated in parts of Shikohabad and Mustafabad by the opening of the new Bhognipur canal without the accompaniment of a proper contemporaneous system of drainage, thus giving rise to excessive subsurface percolation in the light sandy soil of this tract.

Culturable Waste.

As has already been stated, the area of the district which is fit for but not under the plough amounts to 145,068 acres or 13·58 per cent. of the whole. This shows, as might be expected, a material increase since the last settlement. But the proportion is not really a very high one, and in this respect the district will stand a comparison with its neighbours. For the culturable waste includes the land under groves and both old and new fallow as well as that which though capable of being cultivated has been left untouched. Both groves and new fallow should properly be deducted from the total, as the former can scarcely be classified as waste, and the latter is only temporarily out of cultivation owing to the necessary rotation of crops. The exclusion of the areas under these two heads reduces the total figure by nearly one-fourth, and leaves 54,867 acres of waste land, and 54,549 acres of old fallow. The agricultural history of the district shows that a certain amount of the latter might be again brought into cultivation, but it is extremely doubtful whether any of the former, which is probably land of very poor quality, would repay the cost of tillage.

Cultivation.

The methods of cultivation employed in the district are the immemorial ones common to the provinces in general, and few or no improvements have been introduced among a peasantry that prefers the inherited experience of centuries to any novelty grounded on uncomprehended theories. The cultivator of Mainpuri still uses the same simple plough, the same hoe, the same harrow as his ancestors. He prepares his ground in the same way, sows it as his father did before him, with an equal indifference to the quality of the seed, and varies his crop from year to year in the order prescribed by an inflexible tradition. The recently founded Krishi Sabha (Agricultural Association) of Mainpuri

has, however, begun to make headway with the aid of the Agricultural department towards improvements, particularly with regard to implements, water lifts, and selection of seed. The plough, called *hal* as elsewhere, and the *henga* or harrow, are of the ordinary pattern, the former sometimes having attached to it the drill or *bans*. In swampy land a heavy roller called the *patela* or *sohagu*, generally made from a large log of *khajur*, is used for breaking up the clods. Where tobacco is grown, a broom, made of cotton twigs, called *khanera*, is employed to distribute the seed. Other common implements are the *phaora* or large hoe, the *kudra*, or pick, the *khudari*, or adze, and the *hasua*, or sickle.

The harvests are known by the ordinary names of *kharif*, *rabi*, and *zaid*. The last named consists chiefly of melons and the like grown on the sandy banks of the Isan in the vicinity of the city of Mainpuri, but though the industry is a profitable one the figures bulk small, amounting to only one-half per cent. in the total. In the district as a whole the *rabi* and *kharif* crops are roughly equal, and seventeen per cent. of the total cultivated area is double-cropped.

Agricultural Operations.

For the *kharif* the land is usually ploughed three or four times, and for the *rabi* from ten to fifteen times. An average pair of bullocks will plough about one-half an acre in a day, and as a rule there are about 4 acres of *rabi*, and 2 to 2½ acres of *kharif*, with one acre for *dofasli* crops, kept in cultivation by one plough. The *kharif* crops are known locally as *sayari*, *rabi* crops if unirrigated as *sahiriya*, and if irrigated as *bharai*, while the *dofasli* crops are called *dosare*. Rotation of crops is well understood and regularly employed. *Arhar* is sown with all *kharif* crops on good land, but not usually on sandy soil, as it is there easily injured by frost, and requires watering to save it. Cotton is sown before all the other *kharif* crops, except maize, which is usually sown before the rain falls. Caraway, *chaina*, *marua* and rice are supposed to exhaust a field; *bajra* and *juar* also make it less productive, but it can be restored by manure. Barley does not spoil the soil for *kharif* crops, but wheat injures it and renders manure necessary. Sugarcane improves the land for wheat in the following year, but no *kharif* can be sown after

it. The usual rotation is to grow *rabi* crops one year and *kharif* the next year, but in *gauhani* land, the rich strip round the village site, maize, sown in Asarh, can be followed by wheat or barley in Kartik, and *juar*, sown at the end of Asarh, can be succeeded by barley in the *rabi* if the land be manured. Land intended for cotton and maize requires from two to five ploughings; for *juar* and *bajra* from one to five ploughings. But as a rule the more the soil is pulverised and mixed, the less expense there will be for weeding. Indeed, such are the advantages to be derived from frequent ploughing, that if the soil be ploughed for the *kharif*, in Phagun and Chait, no manure will be necessary except for sugarcane. The quantity of seed required varies considerably with the crop to be sown: half a *ser* of *bajra* being sufficient to sow one *kachcha bigha*, while for the same area one *ser* of *juar*, *moth*, *rausa*, *urd*, *mung*, *chaina*, *kuri* and cotton are needed. If maize or indigo are to be sown, 1½ to 2½ *sers* will be wanted; if *til*, 1 *chitak*; if *sarson* or *duan* ¼ *ser*; if *san* 4 *sers*; and if potato, 60 to 80 sers. *Juar* and *bajra* seed are sometimes merely scattered over the surface of the land and afterwards ploughed in. As a general rule, crops sown in *matiyar* require four waterings; in first-class *dumat*, three; in second class *dumat*, two; in *bhur*, one or two; and in *pira* or *tikuriya*, five. Wheat has to be watered from three to six times, according to the variety and the soil, and barley needs one watering less than wheat. Gram sometimes gets one watering in *matiyar*, but, as a rule, none is given. Between the time of sowing sugarcane and the rains, the crop requires from eight to ten waterings, and from one to three afterwards, according as the rains are late or early.

Manure is highly prized, and is always used where procurable. But, as usual, the cattle droppings, which ought to return to the land, are made up into the cakes called *uplas* and used as fuel, owing to the scarcity of wood, and no means are employed to store manure of any kind so as to preserve its quality. Ashes, stable litter and refuse are all made use of to supplement the inadequate residue of cowdung, and the leaves of certain crops, such as hemp, cotton, indigo and tobacco afford a valuable leaf-manure sufficient, when ploughed in, to prepare the soil for any

crop but sugarcane. *Nuna matti*, a kind of clay saturated with ammonia and phosphates procured from village sites, is spread upon the land along with ordinary manure for both tobacco and caraway. The quantity of manure which experience has shown to be really requisite is considerable, and very much in excess of the possible supply from the scanty resources of the village. For the majority of crops, not less than a ton is needed to the *kachcha bigha*, while for sugarcane the minimum is half as much again. The only portion of the village lands that is ever at all sufficiently manured is the narrow belt which immediately encircles the inhabited site. A prejudice still prevails against the employment of the night soil from the large towns, and there is only a small demand for it among the Kachhis and Lodhas for use in the suburban melon beds and vegetable gardens.

Crops. Statistics of the principal crops grown in each tahsil will be found in the appendix. A remarkable feature of the crop history of the district during the last thirty years has been the great development of the system of double cropping and mixed cropping. The former is no doubt largely due to the influence of the canals and the latter may be a sign of inferior cultivation. The area from which two crops were taken in the year was, at the last settlement, 7 per cent. of the whole. It is now 17 per cent. Formerly cotton, *juar* and *bajra* were almost universally grown by themselves. Now they are scarcely grown at all except in conjunction with *arhar*. The presence of a large proportion of the leguminous nitrogen-producing crops in both the *kharif* and *rabi* counteracts the exhausting of the soil due to cereals and millets and the double or even treble cropping which an increasing number of fields are now called upon to bear. The outturn of the principal crops per acre as shown by crop-cutting experiments is as follows:—Wheat $11\frac{4}{5}$ maunds, barley $18\frac{3}{8}$ maunds, gram 5 maunds, sugarcane $35\frac{1}{4}$ maunds. The figure for gram is slightly below and of sugarcane slightly above the normal of the district.

Rabi crops. Wheat. The principal *rabi* crop is wheat, comprising when sown alone and in combination with other crops more than half the total *rabi* area. By itself it occupies an average area of 112,231

acres, and in combination with barley and gram 167,233 acres. The proportion is remarkably constant throughout the district, the percentage of land sown with wheat and mixed wheat, barley and gram, to the total *rabi* area being, in the Mainpuri tahsil, 74 per cent., in Bhongaon, 79 per cent., in Shikohabad, 83 per cent., in Mustafabad, 72 per cent., and in Karhal 77 per cent. Several well-established varieties of wheat are grown in the district, but as a rule they are all grown together indiscriminately in the same field, no attempt to sort the seed being made either by the bania who advances it or the cultivator who sows it. The most important are *sua mariya*, a reddish grain without awns; *sua tikrari*, reddish but awned; *safed mariya*, white and awnless; *safed tikrari*, white and awned; and the awned and awnless varieties of *katiya* or red wheat proper and *sambariya*. The first two have a white grain; they require three waterings, yield most produce, and sell at about one *ser* to the rupee higher than the others. Similar to these and next in value come the second two; the *safed mariya* in particular gives a large return, but requires plenty of water (four or five waterings) and is chiefly grown by Lodhas and Kachhis. The *katiya* is the hardiest of all and the most productive, but is only third in value, and both the grain and the flour are of a reddish colour. The grain of the *sambariya* is longer than that of the ordinary wheat, and is more common in Bah Panahat, on the right bank of the Jamna. Next to wheat in importance in the *rabi* programme comes barley, a considerable amount of which is grown alone in addition to that which is sown along with wheat, gram and other crops. At the recent settlement, in the year of verification, 36,171 acres were found to be under barley, nearly 6,000 acres in excess of the previous five years' average. Of this area 12,307 acres were situated in the Mustafabad tahsil, where barley sown alone formed 20 per cent. of the total crop. The next highest percentage was in Mainpuri, where 11 per cent. of the tahsil was occupied by barley. In the others the percentage was just under or just over 8 per cent. The cultivation of the poppy made until recently very great strides in Mainpuri, the area under this plant having increased from 2,991 acres in 1876 to 27,369 acres in 1906, though for

1907 and 1908 the figures were 19,965 and 14,750, respectively, showing the effect of high prices of wheat competing to the detriment of the poppy area. This enormous rise is due to the canals, which supply the plentiful water required for the successful culture of the plant. Gram is not grown to a very large extent by itself, only accounting for 11,325 acres, a figure differing but little from that at which it stood at the former settlement. Tobacco and potatoes, which at the last settlement covered only 73 acres, now occupy 2,250, a thirty-fold increase; and other garden crops have risen from 533 to 2,836 acres. There is a growing demand for potatoes and cauliflowers, the fashion having spread from Farrukhabad. Mustard, rape, peas and the other usual minor *rabi* crops are not grown by themselves and for them no separate statistics are available.

***Kharif* crops.** By far the largest part of the *kharif* harvest consists of *juar* and *bajra*, grown principally together and in combination with *arhar*. In the year of verification no less than 151,042 acres out of the *kharif* total of 347,552 acres were found to be under this mixed crop, while 15,384 and 22,204 acres of the remainder were taken up by *bajra* and *juar*, respectively, grown by themselves. The increased popularity of the practice of mixed cropping has already been commented on, and in this connection the figures of the last settlement are of great interest, for they prove that the area sown with this combination of grains has been multiplied nearly a hundred-fold in the last thirty years, though the total area under *bajra* and *juar* has diminished by nearly 9,000 acres. With the exception of Shikohabad, where 66 per cent. of the *kharif* area is taken up by these millets, either singly or along with *arhar*, there is little variation in the proportion throughout the district, all the other tahsils showing a percentage of rather over 50 per cent. The crop next in importance to the millets, both as a food staple and in regard to the quantity produced, is maize, and the extent to which its cultivation has increased of late years is, in this as in so many other districts, one of the most notable features of agricultural history. It now covers 60,048 acres as against 16,448 acres at the last settlement. Cotton is another crop which illustrates the present tendency to combine crops instead

of sowing them separately. Thirty years ago only 748 acres were planted with cotton and *arhar* together. This crop now covers 36,153 acres. On the other hand, only 11,056 acres of cotton by itself are now recorded in lieu of a former 48,241 acres. The total area under cotton thus exhibits a slight falling off, but this would appear to be only temporary, and in the opinion of the settlement officer "all other indications are that the cotton area will expand in this district." *Arhar*, which is so largely grown in combination with the millets and cotton, is rarely or never found alone. The remaining *kharif* crops are rice, sugarcane, indigo and some garden and other miscellaneous crops. The rice-growing area in the district is not a large one, but the low-lying *usar* clay soils provide a fairly constant average of some 20,000 to 25,000 acres of this crop, consisting chiefly of the early varieties. Sugarcane was never an important crop in this district, and its area has been steadily diminishing, until it now stands at only 8,212 acres, or less than half what it was at the former settlement. Curiously enough, this decrease in popularity has coincided with improved methods of sugar extraction, and the substitution of the modern iron press for the old stone one. Indigo has also appreciably decreased in area and is practically defunct, only about 500 to 1,000 acres being now grown, though during the past settlement period there was at one time a great impetus given to the cultivation of the plant, nearly every other village having set up its little factory, turning out some 50 to 100 maunds of the dye. But the decline of indigo in recent years has left the countryside dotted with the vats and buildings now crumbling to decay, the gloomy memorials of a ruined industry and spent capital. The stoppage of the supply of the indigo manure has already been felt, and will continue to be a serious loss; but on the other hand the numerous good wells built for the factories remain as an appreciable gain. Garden crops, which once covered over 8,000 acres, have now shrunk to little over 2,000. The other miscellaneous *kharif* products are not of sufficient individual importance to call for separate mention.

Zaid harvest.

The *zaid* harvest is insignificant in area, representing only one half per cent. in the total. It consists almost entirely of

melons and similar products grown on the sandy *tarai* banks of the Isan Nadi, in the vicinity of the city of Mainpuri.

Irrigation. Mainpuri is exceptionally well irrigated from all sources—canals, wells, *jhils*, and the rivers. The last named are not of much direct use for irrigation, but their *khadir* or *tarai*, the lowlying ground along the sides of the main stream which is overflowed during the rains, needs, as a rule, no further watering to enable it to produce good crops. At the recent settlement, in the year of record, it was found that of the cultivated area of 590,435 acres no less than 497,411 acres or 84 per cent. commanded irrigation from one source or another. The latter figure was deduced, village by village and field by field, from the actually irrigated areas of the more seasonally normal years preceding the record year, so that this aggregate area may be taken as a reasonably correct estimate of the normal irrigable area at the present time. The actual area found necessary to be irrigated in dry years, however, comes to about ⅔rds of that figure, but in any case slightly exceeds half the cultivated area. The parganas with largest percentages of actual irrigation are Karhal 70 per cent. and Ghiror 63 per cent., while the lowest percentages are Bewar 42 per cent., Kishni 44 per cent., and Shikohabad 45 per cent. An examination of the detailed figures will show that of this total, 183,577 acres or 37 per cent. of the total irrigation are supplied from the canals, 274,530 acres or 55 per cent. from wells, and only 39,304 acres or 8 per cent. from other sources, i.e. the *jhils* and rivers. Even the 93,024 acres returned as unirrigated cannot all be considered totally dry, as this figure includes a number of plots in lowlying *tarai* areas, in the *jhils* and river beds, such as the *Bhagna* of pargana Shikohabad, the soil of which ordinarily retains sufficient moisture to carry it through the whole *rabi* season without further artificial irrigation. The totally dry area, therefore, does not exceed 8,500 acres at the outside. The improvement during the last settlement period has been very remarkable. The actual increase in irrigable area amounts to some 40,000 acres or 12 per cent. on the former irrigable areas. But this is no measure of the increase in the stability and assuredness of the irrigation. Thus, the canal supply which, unlike that of the wells, is independent of

the local rainfall, has more than doubled itself, increasing by 91,896 acres. In other words, the thirty years have seen some 15 to 16 per cent. more of the whole cultivated area taken under the stable canal irrigation. At the same time, the number of wells, both whole and part masonry, has increased from 7,972 to 13,064, a large increase of 5,092, and of these 13,064 now existing, 7,270 (3,313 whole and 3,957 half masonry) are newly built since the last settlement. These new wells represent an investment of at least 6 lakhs of rupees sunk in the land for agricultural purposes, and at any rate indicate a fairly comfortable surplus of means among the villagers. A noteworthy index of the security and prosperity resulting from the extension of canal irrigation is to be found in pargana Bewar and the north of parganas Kishni and Bhongaon, where the population was formerly thinnest and the losses most severe in periods of depression. In this tract, since the opening of the new Bewar canal, the population has increased by 22 per cent. and 551 new village sites have sprung into existence. The district as a whole is now adequately protected by irrigation, as the history of recent famine years will prove; but there are still some tracts mentioned above in the paragraph on precarious tracts, to which the canals do not penetrate, and where, for one reason or another, the well supply is unsatisfactory. The percentage of irrigation to cultivation is naturally highest in the best portion of the canal tract, where it rises as high as 94 per cent. On the other hand, in the Jamna ravine tract the percentage is still only 34 per cent., while, except in just a few of the more fortunately situated, in the villages along the Kali Nadi the proportion of wet to total cultivation does not exceed 47 per cent. The rest of the central loam division and the Sirsa Nadi portion of the southern tract have 90 per cent. of their cultivated areas commanded by irrigation; the better villages of the northern *bhur* tract, which are now commanded by the Bewar canal, have 86 per cent. of their areas irrigated (nearly all from the canal), while the inferior *bhur* portions of both the northern and southern *bhur* tracts have some 69 and 70 per cent. irrigable.

Reh.

But while the canal irrigation is of immense value to the district, it has apparently assisted the spread of *reh*. It would,

of course, be a palpable error to attribute what *reh* there now is affecting the cultivated area wholly to the canals. In the first place, the Mainpuri cultivator is not exactly prone to economy in the use of canal water. There has recently been a steady substitution of a "lift" for the direct "flow" supply. But where the supply is by flow the cultivator's method of applying water to his field is often to open out all the channels overnight and to go to bed, leaving them running. It matters nothing to him that by the morning besides his own field, many surrounding plots, which did not want the water, are unnecessarily swamped. Secondly, the district suffered much between 1885 and 1891 from abnormally heavy rainfalls, and large tracts remained for several years water-logged. Nevertheless, the provision of an easy and plentiful supply of canal water has assisted the formation of *reh* in fields still unaffected, and there are now in the canal-irrigated portions of the district some 44 villages in pargana Shikohabad and 25 in tahsil Karhal in which the phenomenon is very apparent, and there are some others along the canals in tahsils Mustafabad, Mainpuri and Bhongaon, but the Sengar Sirsa and Kali Isan Duabs are free from *reh*. The Bhognipur branch again has not been an unmixed blessing to the Sirsa Nadi tract of pargana Shikohabad. Apart from the deterioration, including damage to house property (for which the necessary relief was given at the time), which this canal caused to the villages in its vicinity owing to the absence of a proper contemporaneous system of drainage, the canal has caused a more or less permanent excess of dampness in the soil of the villages along it and a tendency to *reh*, and has in others effectively impaired if not destroyed the previous excellent well capacity. Further, as a subsequent effect of the development of the drainage systems, the larger volumes of flood and surplus waters now sent along the former natural rain channels of the ravines have caused the loss of some valuable alluvial soils, *bhagna* and *kachhar*, of the villages along the Jamna.

Deficiency of supply.

Another unsatisfactory feature of the canal system that has come into evidence in late years of scanty rainfall is the short supply of canal water due to the low state of the Ganges, and the consequent diversion of the canal supply to the less favoured

districts lower down the Duab. The proposed Sarda feeder, however, should remedy this deficiency and lead to desirable extensions of channels to villages hitherto not reached by the canal and devoid of an efficient well supply. This partial failure of the canal coupled with a run of dry seasons has encouraged the making of wells, and it is hoped that the district will be able to absorb annually about one lakh of rupees of Government loans that are forthcoming for this purpose. With all its defects, however, canal water is on the whole more in demand than well water, and its supply must be very uncertain for it to be ousted by the latter.

The original Ganges Canal, opened in 1854, traversed Mainpuri with the Cawnpore and Etawah branches, both of them following the same lines as at present. The amount of irrigation obtainable from the canal was limited, and in 1866 a committee was appointed by the Government of India to consider the question of its remodelling and the supplementing of its supply by a new canal taken out of the Ganges at a lower point. The committee reported in favour of the proposal but suggested the postponement of any action till the values of water for irrigation should have risen. The failure of the rains in 1866, however, emphasized the necessity for immediate action, and in 1869 preliminary survey operations were commenced with a view to the selection of a site for the weir and the location of the main line of the proposed canal in connection with the existing Cawnpore and Etawah branches of the Ganges Canal. A detailed survey in the following year clearly indicated Narora, a village about 30 miles to the north-east of Aligarh, as the best available site for the weir, and in 1870 a detailed project for the Lower Ganges Canal was prepared. This project proposed to make the main canal from Narora to Allahabad, feeding the Cawnpore and Etawah branches by a supply channel and crossing the former at the 115th mile of its course at Tarha, and to make a new Bhognipur branch, taking out of the Etawah branch just beyond the boundary of the Mainpuri district. Work was begun in 1872, but in 1877 the Local Government submitted a revised project, abandoning the proposal to carry the main canal to Allahabad, and substituting for it the Bewar branch, to follow

Canals.

the same alignment, but to terminate at the Isan Nadi. The main canal was to be continued along the supply branch, crossing the Cawnpore branch at Gopalpur by a level crossing, up to Jera, near Eka, where the old Etawah branch meets it and where the new branch would take off from it, and the Bhognipur branch was to start from Jera and traverse the southern portion of Mainpuri, instead of beginning in the Etawah district. These modifications were accepted by the Government of India in 1877, and in 1880 the new branches were opened. The district is now therefore traversed by the Lower Ganges canal and four of its branches, and every pargana is more or less protected by canal water. The main canal, entering the district at its north-western corner, flows through the Mustafabad tahsil from north to south, while its four branches strike off to the south-east and run in more or less parallel courses through the breadth of the district from west to east, but always bearing to the south. The most northerly, the so-called Bewar branch, leaves the main canal at mile 40, in the Etawah district, entering the Mainpuri district at its 25th mile. Next to it, to the south, is the Cawnpore branch, which takes out of the main canal in its 56th mile at Gopalpur in pargana Mustafabad. Six miles further south, at Jera, the main canal bifurcates into two branches, the Etawah branch and the Bhognipur branch. The former of these runs eastwards in a direction roughly parallel to the Bewar and Cawnpore branches, while the latter continues its course almost due south till it reaches the tahsil town of Shikohabad. It there swings round to the east as it approaches the line of the East Indian Railway and follows thenceforward a course parallel to those of the other branches. The water from the upper Ganges canal system also supplements the supply of the feeder canal at Gopalpur and Jera. There are regulators at each of the canal heads, and bridges at Gopalpur, Uresar, and Sarabpur (Eka); also a syphon over the Arind.

Canal Divisions.

The canal divisions under executive engineers of the Irrigation department are distributed throughout the district without relation to other administrative boundaries. The Mainpuri division with headquarters at Mainpuri covers the north of the district north of the Arind river, excluding the small areas on

the east and west under the Cawnpore and Aligarh divisions respectively. It also includes the Bhognipur branch up to the Shikohabad tahsil boundary southwards from Gopalpur, and overlaps the Etah district as far as the head of the Bewar branch, which is entirely within this charge. The headworks of all four branches are within this division, of which Gopalpur on the extreme western boundary is the most important; and scarcely less important is the system of regulators at Jera for the Bhognipur and Etawah branches. A sub-divisional officer is always permanently located at Gopalpur in connection with the regulation of supply to the main branches. The Aligarh division with headquarters at Aligarh covers the area irrigated by the distributaries fed from the Upper Ganges Canal system above Gopalpur and Jera. The Sengar Nadi improvement to the west of the Bhognipur branch, and the Pilakhtar, Nuh Suraya, and Katana distributaries are within the division. The Etawah division is conterminous with the Arind-Sengar duab below Jera. The Cawnpore division extends eastwards from the Tarha bridge on the extreme eastern boundary of the district, and is limited to the Arind-Isan duab. The Bhognipur division starts at the Sirsa river on the Bhognipur branch, and ends so far as this district is concerned at the Etawah border in Shikohabad tahsil. For irrigation purposes these divisions are well defined and include the main canal and branches therefrom within the above-mentioned areas. For drainage purposes the boundaries are not so exact, and the Sengar-Sirsa duab east of the Bhognipur branch is not included in any charge, but very little drainage if any is actually needed here.

Bewar branch.

This branch, which was opened in 1880, irrigates the Sakit pargana in Etah, and the Kali-Isan duab in the parganas of Kuraoli, Alipur Patti, Bhongaon, Bewar, and Kishni in Mainpuri as well as part of Farrukhabad. It enters the Mainpuri district at Panwah and comes to an end in the Isan Nadi near Tarha. With the exception of a stretch of loam between the towns of Kuraoli and Bhongaon, the country through which it flows is sandy and was in former years exceedingly liable to suffer in years of drought, but has now been transformed into a most prosperous and secure agricultural region. In times of full demand its

discharge at the head is 712 cubic feet per second, and it runs every alternate week. It is not navigable. Its distributaries in this district are the Birsinghpur minor, the Bankia, Bhongaon and Bajhera on the right bank, and the Malawan, Kuraoli, Bewar, Nigoh, and Binsia channels on the left. With the exception of the Malawan, Nigoh and Binsia distributaries, which also serve parts of Etah and Farrukhabad, the irrigation from these channels is entirely confined to Mainpuri. The disastrous breach of the Kali Nadi aqueduct at Nadrai near Kasganj in Etah in 1885, to which reference has been made elsewhere, besides devastating the whole valley of the Kali Nadi, also involved the closing of this canal for a considerable time. The area commanded by this branch is 127,933 acres and the maximum yet irrigated by it has been 58,101 acres in 1905-06. The area irrigated in the 1907-08 famine was rather less, amounting to 53,080 acres only. There are bridges at Panwah, Tilokpur (Lakhaura), Saraiya (Sarai Latif), Kunwarpur (Bikrampur), Kuraoli, Nanamau, Bichhwan, Kinawar, Bilon, Jalalpur, Rajwana, Barauli, Manpur Hari, Bewar, Majholi, Sobhanpur and Todarpur. There are falls with regulators at Kuraoli, Jalalpur, and Majholi and two tail falls at Bahramau and Ahmadpur of 12 feet each into the Isan. There is one syphon at Tigwan.

Cawnpore branch. This, like the Etawah branch, originally formed part of the Ganges Canal system, and was only transferred to the Lower Ganges system in 1877. It now takes off from the main canal in its 56th mile at Gopalpur in pargana Mustafabad and flows south-east as far as Dannahar, where it makes a slight curve to accommodate itself to the course of the Arind river. The canal passes through the parganas of Mustafabad, Ghiror, Mainpuri, Bhongaon and Kishni, entering the Farrukhabad district in its 60th mile, near Dhakroi, and irrigates the country lying between the Isan and Arind rivers. In times of full demand its discharge at the head at Gopalpur is 1,600 cubic feet per second. It is provided with numerous bridges at Gopalpur, Ninauli, Kailai, Muhkampur (Aurangabad), Nagaria (Nagla Salehi), Pachawar, Karaoli, Dannahar, Rustampur (Dharmangadpur Nagaria), Singhpur (Auren Panraria) Patarhar, (Angautha), Bhanwat, Basawanpur, Kasardh, Raihar (Singni), Dhanraus, Tarha, and

Fatehpur (Kumhaul). A large distributary known as the Nagaria rajbaha leaves this branch on the left bank near Nagaria (otherwise known as Nagla Salehi) and another lower down at Tarha. On the right bank are the Pachawar and Sakrawa distributaries. The Pachawar distributary starts at Pachawar, and skirts the main canal to its tail at Dhanraus. The Sakrawa distributary starts at the Tarha bridge and irrigates three villages before entering the Farrukhabad district. As this is a navigable canal there are weirs and locks at Tarha, Nagaria (Nagla Salehi) and Gopalpur. The area irrigated in 1906-07 was 44,838 acres for both seasons, out of a commanded area of 1,003,761 acres.

Etawah branch. This branch irrigates the duab between the Arind and Sengar rivers, running parallel with the Cawnpore branch as far as Gangsi, where it takes a turn to the south. Its head is at Jera, a hamlet of Eka in Mustafabad, and it runs for 41½ miles in Mainpuri before it enters the Etawah district. It crosses the natural drainage lines at several points. At Ghiror a large escape with a regulator into the Sengar river has been constructed. There are bridges at Sunari, Fatehpur, Katana, Nagla Tiwari (Eka), Paindhat, Kanwa Kana, Patikra, Baragaon, Kusiari, Nagla Fateh Khan, Ghiror, Nagla Jarari (Kosma), Jawapur, Gangsi, Nitaoli, Bujhiya (Urthan), Nagla Basa, Dundgaon, Takhrau and Bilanda (Rurua). The right main distributary no longer exists, its place having been taken by several independent distributaries from the main canal. The principal distributaries are now the Kaurara (Buzurg), Kusiari, Karhal and Takhrau rajbahas on the right bank, and the Jarari, Gangsi and Bansak channels on the left. The total length of the distributaries and their minor channels in this district is 199 miles, and they irrigate 238 villages. The area commanded by this canal is 138,164 acres, and of this area about 60 per cent. can be irrigated in a year of drought in the two seasons. The normal full discharge or volume passing the regulator at Jera is 2,049 cubic feet per second. There are falls at Patikra, Kusiari, Ghiror, Gangsi, Nitaoli and Bilanda. The canal is not navigable, nor are the weirs at present used as sources of water power.

Bhognipur branch. This was opened in 1880. Like the Etawah branch, it starts at Jera, and forms the more southerly of the two branches into

which the main canal divides at this point. Its course is at first due south to Araunj, near Shikohabad town, but from this place it curves to the east and runs between the railway and the Sirsa river into the Etawah district. At the 3rd mile it crosses the Sengar, at the 10th mile the Senhar, and at the 19th mile the Sirsa by means of large syphons. At Jera there is a telegraph office instituted with the object of regulating the supply of water to the Etawah and Bhognipur branches. The area commanded lies in Shikohabad, where it irrigates the duab, from 3 to 9 miles wide, of the Sirsa and Jamna rivers. The maximum normal discharge of this branch with the full gauge of 7 feet at the head is 1,200 cubic feet per second. The starting level of the bed, viz. the floor of the regulating head at Jera, is 537·53 feet above mean sea level. The width of the canal bed varies from 52 feet at head down to 45 feet at the 38th mile, where it leaves the district. The slope of the bed is 1 in 7,500 throughout with a fall of 1·75 feet in the 25th mile, known as the Bhandri fall, and another of 2 feet, in the 29th mile, known as the Surajpur fall. The Ubti distributary, the most important in the reach, takes off on the right of the canal between the 19th and 20th miles, with a full discharge of 93 cubic feet per second, and runs in a south-easterly direction. The two other distributaries in the district are the Ahmadpur, taking off on the left bank in the 25th mile with a discharge of 28 cubic feet per second, and the Bhadan, with Ujrai minor, taking off on the right a furlong beyond the 28th milestone, with a discharge of 41 cubic feet per second. These distributaries run, according to the present arrangements, two weeks in three, and their aggregate full discharges ought to irrigate 21,546 acres in the *rabi* season each year. The actual maximum irrigation hitherto effected in two seasons of one year amounted in 1905-06 to 35,363 acres out of a commanded area of 95,748 acres. In other words, 37 per cent. of the commanded area has come under irrigation. The Ubti distributary has lately been remodelled, and the other two are being similarly treated, with the object of making them work absolutely without closure of their outlets, an important point in the working of a canal. There are bridges at Gaheri, Mustafabad, Darapur Raseni, Jajumai, Katena Harsa, Naiyamai,

Araunj, Shikohabad, Aswa, Bhandri, Amhaur, Surajpur, Jahmai, Bhadan and Khondar Ajnaura, and a syphon at Bhogpur.

Upper Ganges Canal. The Upper Ganges Canal (Etawah branch) under the Aligarh division waters a few villages in Mustafabad from the Katana Nali, and Pilakhtar distributaries. There is one bridge at Suraya, and a drainage work, the Sengar Nadi improvement.

Wells. More than half the irrigation of the district, as has already been observed, is still carried on from wells, but the area dependent on this source of irrigation has materially declined, only 274,530 acres being now watered from wells as against 328,400 at the last settlement. This decrease is entirely confined to earthen wells, as the number of masonry wells in the district has nearly doubled in the same period. When canal water is available it is naturally taken, and the recurrent labour and expense of excavating the short-lived earthen well are avoided, though there is a generally prevailing belief, for which scientific justification can perhaps be found, in the superior fertilizing qualities of well water. This is particularly the case in regard to wells in the near neighbourhood of old village sites, which probably absorb a good deal of ammonia, nitrates and other salts by drainage. The *nona* clay, which is well known to be a great fertilizer, is habitually collected by cultivators from old village sites and used in combination with manure. On the other hand, the natural soils and strata sometimes impart properties the reverse of beneficial to well water. For instance, in the large *kharua* or bitter tract in Mustafabad cultivators eagerly embrace any chance offered of availing themselves of canal irrigation, although the subsoil is good and firm and wells can be easily and cheaply constructed, and last for years. Besides rendering the earthen well unnecessary in its neighbourhood the canal has in many places, particularly in the sandy tract, made it impossible by saturation of the subsoil, which causes the sides of the well to fall in, and makes unsupported excavations to any depth impracticable. By far the greatest number of earthen wells is found in pargana Shikohabad, in the south-west of the district, where the soil is firm, and the water lies at an average depth of forty feet from the surface, while pargana Barnahal is almost entirely irrigated from them.

To the east of the district where the water level rises to ten or fifteen feet from the surface, the soil is so unfavourable to the construction of such wells that they require constant renewal. In the central tract many have been destroyed by percolation from the canals.

Methods of making and working wells.

The masonry well is called *kuan* and an unlined earthen well *kuiyan*. There are several kinds of masonry wells in use in the district, some being of block *kankar* (*silia*), either with lime mortar or *gara* or mud, others of brick, burned or sun baked, and also the *gand* or *garh* well.

The *kankar* well, which is practically everlasting, varies in cost according to the depth at which water is found, but can scarcely be made for less than Rs. 200. The small *garh* well is formed of huge bricks, four or five of which placed together make up a circle leaving an aperture barely sufficient to allow of the lowering of a bucket. This type of well is only used when the water is at no great distance from the surface, and is inexpensive, costing only from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50, but lasts only 10 or 12 years.

Most masonry wells are spring wells resembling generally the ordinary spring wells found throughout the alluvial plains of the Indo-Gangetic Valley. The sub-soil, after cutting through the upper arable soil, is generally found to be composed of alternate layers of different thicknesses of sand and hard clay with or without *kankar*. At a certain depth, averaging usually from 20 to 30 feet, the percolation level (*chuan*) is reached where the soil is moist throughout the year and where water tends to collect slowly in an open excavation, and may suffice for the supply of small water lifts such as *dhenklis* or even for one bucket (*charsa*) of a bullock lift worked slowly. Wells so constructed are percolation wells, and are generally unprovided with a masonry cylinder owing to their temporary nature. Sometimes percolation wells are constructed in river beds as well as in ordinary soil. A percolation well is usually sunk down into the first sandy stratum below the percolation level and the difficulty is to check the tendency of the saturated sand of that stratum to enter the well, choking it, and causing subsidence of the sides, and ultimate collapse of the well. The

sides of the well have therefore to be supported, and at the same time provision has to be made for admitting water free of sand as far as possible, but as it is impossible entirely to keep sand from entering the well through the bottom and sides when drawn upon the well becomes useless after a comparatively short time, the length of which varies according to the supply taken from it, and the nature of the sub-soil. Similarly a masonry well sunk as far as the percolation level only and resting on sand will ultimately be undermined and collapse or break and in either case be rendered useless, and therefore it does not pay to invest in such a well, so that percolation wells are generally unlined with masonry and are of a temporary nature. A masonry well is therefore sunk through the first water-bearing sand down to at least as far as the next hard stratum (*mota* or *gharra*) which is impermeable to water, and embedded thereon carefully so as to exclude all water and sand. The well having been emptied and proved to be water tight, a hole is drilled through the *mota* with a crowbar or spear and water is admitted from the sandy stratum underneath, whence it is forced up into the well by hydrostatic pressure, varying according to the depth of the *mota* and other factors. This is called striking the '*sot*' or spring and such wells are called sub-artesian. Owing to the extreme flatness of the alluvial plain no true artesian wells are to be found, at any rate in this district, and the water ultimately reaches a level averaging from 20 to 30 feet below the ground level, approximating to the percolation level. After the spring has been struck and the well used, the sand of the subjacent water-bearing stratum tends to come into the well for a short time until a water cavity is formed under the *mota* sufficiently wide and deep to maintain equilibrium of the particles of sand forming its sides, for in proportion as the cavity grows wider less water flows past each particle until the sand no longer tends to be carried along with the water into the well. The size of the particles of sand in this subjacent stratum affects the supply; if they are minute they check the supply, and if large and granular they give a freer passage to the water. The thickness of the *mota* is an important factor inasmuch as it forms a support for the well cylinder. If it is not strong

enough to support the cylinder over the water cavity, the well will collapse and become useless, but usually a thickness of 6 or 7 feet is sufficient for a four-bucket well, provided of course that the *mota* is of a firm consistency and free of friable soil. The best kind of *mota* is one that has hard *kankar* nodules mixed with the clay and is imposed on a coarse bed of sand. If the *mota* is too thin or weak it is necessary to sink the cylinder on to the next firm *mota*. If the *mota* is absent or inefficient the well is a failure as a spring well, but the district is now provided with a well-borer under the Agricultural Department who has his time occupied chiefly in remedying existing wells, and also to a less extent in making trial borings for new wells. If the *mota* is absent or defective the bottom of the well is plugged and through it a pipe is sunk to the next efficient *mota*. The expense of an iron pipe is very little, and a well may draw on a deep and therefore reliable water supply at a cost of about Rs. 50 or so, instead of being sunk in the usual laborious fashion at a cost of perhaps ten times that amount. The Isan and Kali Nadi valleys in the northern sandy tract constitute practically the only parts of the district where the *mota* is deficient or absent at ordinary depths. The method of sinking the cylinder (*gola*) is to construct first a wooden cylinder (*jakan*) which is inserted in the excavation above percolation level and rests on a wooden frame (*rakh*). The latter frequently extends beyond the cylinder for 18 inches. The cylinder is built up on the *rakh* until in some cases it projects beyond the ground surface. Sufficient weight for sinking, having thus been procured, the *rakh* is carefully undermined, the wet soil and water being drawn out as required. When the *mota* is reached the interstices between the *rakh* and the *mota* are packed with *kankar*, hemp and molasses, making the cylinder water-tight. The well is then finished off by striking the spring and completing its upper portion. In earthen non-masonry wells where sandy water-bearing strata are met the sides are lined with rope-like coils of twigs pegged down layer by layer, such a well being called a *bira* well, and resembling the other variety of earthen well called *budhjar*, which is protected by a frame-work of stakes interwoven with twigs of *arhar*, cotton or tamarisk;

a *kothi* well, also called a *garari* or *garawari*, consists of a circular lining of stakes on which planks are nailed and firmly fastened together with iron clamps. Where the sub-soil consists of a firm white clay (*mota*) the *nanga* or unlined well can be made and will often last as long as 20 years, and in fact one such well has been in use for nearly 100 years. These wells are to be met with in the south of pargana Shikohabad, but elsewhere the life of an earthen well is from one to two years, but as their cost averages from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 in the localities where they are made they are readily renewed as required. At the same time it must be stated that the tendency to replace earthen by masonry wells is growing, even in places where earthen wells draw from springs. When the drawing of water from a well is first started the water surface sinks rapidly until it overcomes the resistance in the water-bearing stratum, whereupon the incoming water begins to balance the output and maintain a constant level. It may happen, especially in years of drought when the sub-soil water has sunk, and in places where the *mota* is comparatively near the surface of the ground that the water surface may sink so much as to leave too little water for filling the bucket. Short of tapping another lower spring, such a well will have to be worked slowly, or abandoned. The majority of spring wells, however, have such a copious supply that they can be worked with four pairs of bullocks continuously, two pairs on one side and two on the opposite side; very few spring wells are to be found that do not give water enough for at least two pairs of bullocks, and in places 6 or 8 buckets can be used. A four-bucket well is one with 4 *pairs* or *laos* (bullock runs) and is generally not less than 8 feet in diameter. The Persian wheel (*rahat*) is never used in this district because of its bulkiness and inferior efficiency, and the ordinary water-lift is the *pur* or *charsa*, a large leather bag containing as a rule 25 gallons, and worked in the usual way, by a pair of bullocks yoked to one end of the rope to the other end of which is attached the *charsa*. The bullocks driven by the driver advance up the inclined surface of the run towards the well letting the bag down, the rope passing over a pulley (*ghiri* or *charkhi*); when the bag is full

they return, descending into the *naichi* or pit at the end of the run as far as the *bahoro* or turning point at the end. The *pur* is caught and emptied on reaching the well brink by a man named *purhi* and *parcha* or *parchawala*, and the water is distributed in the fields by the *pan-laga* or *pan-kata*. Thus three men are employed on one bucket, but two pairs of bullocks on one side of a well can be worked with one driver and one *purhi*. The pulley is supported generally on a forked tree-trunk (*kaur* or *kuhar*), to which its axle is held by pegs. The whole of this apparatus is portable, and removed when required, the pulley and axle being always taken away every evening after work. More rarely the pulley is attached by uprights to a cross beam (*mair*) resting on earthen or masonry pillars. With a depth of 25 feet (a very general depth) one 25-gallon bucket (the usual capacity of a *charsa*) will give 30 gallons to the minute or 300 cubic feet per hour, or 2,400 cubic feet per working day of 8 hours.

With the *dhenkli* the heavy *pur* is not employed but only a lighter vessel of earthenware. This simple device is of the standard pattern, consisting of a long lever or beam (*dhenkli*), working on an axle fixed in a low forked post (*manjha*) as fulcrum, with its short end heavily weighted with lumps of clay (*chakha hat* or *thua*). To the extremity of the long end is fastened a rope (*barari*), to which is attached the bucket (*karwara*). The cultivator, taking hold of the rope, pulls on it and lowers the bucket into the well or tank; then, releasing his hold, allows the weight at the other end to fall and draw up the water. The vessels used ordinarily hold about two gallons, so that the process is both slow and laborious. Often, however, cultivators will club together and have five or six *dhenklis* at work at the same place, at the same time, pouring all the water into a common channel. This both saves labour, as only one man is needed to distribute it to the several fields, and also avoids much loss by percolation and evaporation. The area irrigated by a well varies very considerably with the nature of the well and the character of the soil. It is usual for masonry wells to have as many as 3 or 4 *laos*, or runs, while earthen wells have seldom more than one. Actual measurements made in a dry

year in pargana Kuraoli, where the soil tends to be sandier than most, showed that on the average each *lao* of a masonry well with a 20-feet lift could irrigate annually 5 acres; each run of an earthen well, fed by the spring, nearly 4 acres; while the percolation well commanded about 2½ acres, and the *dhenkli* only a little over one acre. These estimates are probably rather below than above the mark.

Other sources. About 8 per cent. of the irrigation of the district comes from *jhils*, tanks and rivers, the actual area being some 40,000 acres. The contribution of the rivers to this total is a small one, the Isan and the Arind being the only ones whose water is of much service, and even their usefulness is mainly confined to the upper reaches, though dams are made lower down for this purpose (see the article on rivers in Chapter I). As a rule, the steepness and height of the banks and the scanty supply of water in the season when it is most wanted militate against any extensive employment of the rivers for this purpose; while the bed of the stream, and its *khadir* or *tarai* on either side, stand in no need of irrigation, thanks to the thorough saturation already received by the soil during the rains. To bring the water from the *jhils* or tanks on to the land the *dhenkli* is employed where practicable, but more often it is baled out and thrown up by hand. The method is simple. A large, flat basket called *lahnri* (*leri*) or *benri* (*beri*), about 16 inches across and a few inches deep, is the implement. Four ropes are attached to this and held by four men, two on each side. A largish hole is dug at the head of the water channel, which may be as much as five feet above the tank, though usually less, and another directly below it in the bed of the tank. These holes are protected from erosion, the upper one with a bundle of straw or grass and the lower with bricks. The men dip the *lahnri* into the pool and then swing it up, throwing the water into the prepared basin. The work is hard, and two shifts of four men each are required to carry it on continuously. Sometimes the basket is replaced by a leather bag of similar shape, but about double the capacity, called a *paroha* or *dol*. It is not uncommon to see water being raised more than one stage in this manner, and two sets of men working tandem-fashion, one behind the other: in some cases the *dhenkli* is made

use of for the final lift. Latterly the Agricultural Association of Mainpuri has been pushing chain pumps as supplied by the Agricultural Department, to replace the basket lift, and one or two 15-feet pumps have been successfully used on the Kali Nadi, where the lift is about 12 feet. Hitherto no one has installed a power plant, but there is no doubt that they will be adopted in time, not so much on the Jamna, Kali Nadi or Isan as in ordinary wells in the interior, where the springs and sub-soil strata are satisfactory and the irrigable area is ample. Along the rivers there is little need for irrigation in normal years. Chain pumps will no doubt be brought into vogue by the Irrigation department for raising water from distributaries, but the supply in the ordinary village channels is not sufficient to supply these pumps, which at low depths draw from two to three times the amount given by the basket lift at a similar expenditure of labour. The gallonage per minute of a basket lift is 75 and of a 5-foot chain pump 150, as compared with 30 gallons given by the ordinary bullock lift.

Famines. There are no records of the famines which afflicted the district in the eighteenth century or before it, but its position leaves no room for doubt that it must have shared in the great droughts that devastated all Hindustan in 1770 and 1783; unprotected as it then was it must have suffered the full violence of those visitations. During the early years of the nineteenth century a succession of droughts and famines afflicted the whole Duab. In the early part of 1803 the crops were much injured by hailstorms; and the rains failed altogether about the middle of August, after a few scanty falls. This resulted in the almost total loss of the *kharif* harvest, a calamity followed by the failure of the winter rains, and consequent partial loss of the *rabi*. The distress was great and widespread, and, though to some extent relieved by large suspensions of revenue and fair harvests in 1805-6, left the country in no position to face another untimely cessation of the monsoon in August 1806 and another unproductive *kharif*. 1810 and 1812 were also years of drought, and in 1813-14 the scarcity was serious enough to deserve the name of famine, though not so sorely felt in Mainpuri as in some of the neighbouring districts. There were several seasons of drought

between 1814 and 1837, but it was not till the latter year that the district again experienced a really severe famine. In 1838 Mr. R. N. C. Hamilton reported after visiting Farrukhabad: "Mainpuri was in a somewhat worse state. The parganas which the road traversed were barren and parched, the crop in the ground stunted and light and no appearance of any *kharif* having been reaped, but towards and in Sirhpura (now in the Etah district) the cultivated area seemed much improved." Captain Wroughton, the surveyor, writes of his visit during the preceding year (1837) to Etah, Kuraoli, Shikohabad and Ghiror that, whereas in ordinary years a cultivator with one plough tills 40 bighas (rather under 20 acres), of which one-half is irrigable, this year none of the dry area was cultivated and only four-fifths of the wet. The *banias*, as usual, assisted the cultivators with seed, but when they saw the unfavourable nature of the season, they refused to advance grain for subsistence until the new crops were ready. The consequence of this may be imagined. "The cultivators neglected their sowings, which perished, and multitudes of them fled to other parts of the country, where reports led them to contemplate a more promising state of affairs." Kuraoli was much worse off than Etah, its soil being chiefly *bhur* or sand. The irrigated area was much smaller than in previous years, and fodder was only procured with the greatest difficulty. One-half of Mustafabad was in a passable state, the wet cultivation showing an increase of about 25 per cent. on previous years. But the condition of the other half to the south-west was deplorable, and from a rapid survey Captain Wroughton estimated that it could not have more than one-quarter of the normal amount of wet cultivation. In both Mustafabad and Shikohabad there was no dry cultivation whatever, and fodder in the shape of grass was not procurable. Numbers of cattle perished from want of food and water, for in the country towards the Jamna the depth of the water from the surface rendered the raising of it in sufficient quantities too laborious to be practicable. In Ghiror there was an increase in the wet area of fully 25 per cent., but no dry tillage. Captain Wroughton writes: "Though the cattle have, generally speaking, not died, the hot wind will certainly put them out, for even in working now their limbs bend under the

shadow of a carcase. Grass is to be had, but is still extremely difficult to procure, and when obtained, if I may say so, contains as much nutriment as rejected rope-yarns, and is beyond the masticating powers of any animal that I am acquainted with, save and except a hungry Duab bullock." The effects of this famine were seen, not only in untilled fields, in the loss of men and cattle, and the deterioration of the working power of the survivors, but also in the violent changes which took place in the constitution of the existing social body. As will be seen hereafter, very many of the transfers of land which subsequently took place owed their origin to the indebtedness caused by this famine, and the usurious interest charged by the *banias* on loans for the purchase of seed and the necessaries of life, and it was many years before the district recovered from the check then given to its prosperity. The remissions of revenue for the two years amounted to Rs. 72,931, and the net balance at the close of 1246 *fasli* (1838-39 A.D.) amounted to Rs. 4,09,804 on the district as it then stood. The next famine came in 1860-1, and found the district officers better prepared to deal with it. The Shikohabad road was taken in hand and gave daily employment to 4,000 persons while the distress lasted. A sum of Rs. 30,874 (including Rs. 2,350 from local subscriptions) was placed at the disposal of the local committee, and of this Rs. 29,665 were expended in relieving a daily average of 4,605, or a total of 690,173. This does not include the sums spent on relief works, the Rs. 20,113 advanced to cultivators for seed and cattle, the greater part of which was never recovered, or the portions of the balances of land revenue, amounting to Rs. 1,06,421, which were subsequently remitted. The drought of 1868-9 caused little suffering in the district. During August 1868 the Collector anticipated that his district would be the centre of an enormous famine tract, but fortunately the rainfall in September came in time to save the district from ruin, and the eventual outturn of the spring crop was estimated at about three-fourths of the average. Prices were kept high by the export of large supplies of grain to Central India.

1877-8. In 1877 the rains failed almost entirely, only 2·9 inches falling instead of over thirty as in normal years. Less than a

third of the usual *kharif* area was sown, and over a great part of that the seed failed to germinate. Distress began to appear early in August, when wheat was selling at 14 *sers* and *juar* at 16½ *sers* to the rupee, and the streets were soon filled with beggars. The first class to be seriously affected was that of the weavers, but it was not long before the agricultural labourer and the small cultivator felt the pinch, particularly in the south-west of the district near the Jamna, where the drought was most severe. A conference was held at Agra, and it was decided to open relief works. This was done on several roads, and a poor-house was started in Mainpuri. A fall of rain in October afforded some benefit, but both relief works and poor-houses had to be kept open continuously till October 1878, when a good *kharif* saved the situation. The numbers on relief in October 1877 amounted to 61,629 units, but sank to about 20,000 during each of the next three months, rising again to 55,000 in February 1878 and 67,000 in March. In April, May and June the numbers fell off, but in July they once more increased till in August 11,834 units were relieved in the poor-house and 95,311 on the various works. The latter were discontinued in October, but the poor-house had to be kept open till December. The balance of revenue outstanding for the *kharif* was Rs. 2,16,318 and for the *rabi* Rs. 47,221. Of this Rs. 18,601 were remitted. The death rate was 34·65, or 14·65 in excess of the normal. It is not likely that any of this abnormally large mortality was directly due to starvation, though no doubt it was aggravated by the use of unsuitable and unaccustomed foods. A famine year implies a year in which the heat is unnaturally great and the climatic conditions abnormal, and in such circumstances the death roll among small children and old and infirm people is bound to be heavy.

1896-7.

In 1896 the rainfall was deficient, but by this time the district was no longer dependent on rainfall alone. Four main branches of the Lower Ganges Canal now protected it, with the result that, in spite of the short rainfall, an eight anna *kharif* was reaped, and though there was some distress in parts, the district as a whole benefited by the compensatory high prices. Barnahal and Shikohabad were the only parganas in which the scarcity

was at all severely felt, and to them assistance was given in various ways. Two thousand temporary wells were made with advances of money from Government, and twelve thousand more from private capital. Two poor-houses were opened, one at Mainpuri and the other at Shikohabad, and the raising and metalling of the Shikohabad-Batesar road was undertaken as a relief work. The latter was opened in December 1896, but had to be closed in March 1897 with only half the work completed. From the start the numbers steadily decreased; the maximum daily attendance never exceeded 1,091, the total number of units relieved was 13,983 and the expenditure was Rs. 2,840 only. The number of persons on gratuitous relief in their villages or in poor-houses only reached a maximum of a little over 2,000 for a short time. Up to that year, 1304 *fasli,* the balance sheet of revenue collections was absolutely clear of arrears. For that year Rs. 52,404, revenue of the *kharif kist,* were suspended, and Rs. 4,000 of the *rabi kist,* but of these sums only Rs. 10,000 in all had to be ultimately remitted. The death rate during the period of scarcity was only ·15 above the decennial average of 1886 to 1895. The provincial famine report shows in fact that Mainpuri was the least affected district in the Agra division, and very nearly in the whole provinces, practically the whole distress being confined to a block of country 111 square miles in area in Shikohabad.

Famine of 1906-7 and 1907-8.

The famine of 1906-7 scarcely affected the district at all, and no relief measures were necessary. In 1907-8 it was nearly as fortunate. There was no serious distress, and the very moderate amount of relief required was due solely to the pressure of high prices upon the poorer classes not dependent on agriculture, and ended with the harvesting of the spring crops. Gratuitous relief on a small scale was started early in January 1908, but discontinued during April, the greatest number relieved in this way at any one time having only been 2,160. In Mainpuri itself and some of the smaller towns relief was given until July by the committee of the Charitable Fund to some of those previously in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government. There was no need for poor-house relief. The poor-house erected as a precautionary measure in Shikohabad was never occupied. Only

Rs. 5,043 of the revenue demand had to be remitted and Rs. 5,089 suspended.

Baisuri. The *baisuri* weed has seriously interfered with cultivation in 58 villages in the district, of which 49 lie in the Mustafabad pargana and 7 on its borders within the Shikohabad pargana, these 56 forming one practically continuous group lying south of the Sengar river. One more village, Fakhrpur, on the borders of pargana Barnahal within the Shikohabad tahsil, and another, Qutabpur Buzurg, on the Karhal road north of Karhal, are also somewhat seriously affected. The weed is a light green, bushy plant, one to two feet high, with woody stalks and excessively long roots, and comes to maturity in May and June. During the rains it dies off temporarily, but in dry weather, and particularly in years of scanty rainfall, overruns fallow land. The *kharif* harvest is unaffected, but in the *rabi* the extra labour of weeding it causes badly-infected land to be let at rents 25 per cent. below the normal. Canal water is the only satisfactory remedy as the plant cannot withstand copious irrigation, and on this account it is not complained of in canal-irrigated tracts. The infected portions of parganas Shikohabad and Mustafabad are uncommanded by canals, the Pilakhtar distributary excepted. The weed is found on *dumat* soils only, never on *bhur*, and on light *dumat* it never seems to get a hold. It grows in very many more villages and in other parganas besides those mentioned without causing appreciable injury or even attracting notice. In pargana Mustafabad it is associated in many villages with brackish or alkaline well water, which can be used only sparingly, if at all, for irrigation, and on this account, no doubt, the spread of the weed is connected with the brackish water in the "bitter water tract," which appears to be a continuation of that in Etah and Muttra. Neither the weed nor the alkalinity have been proved to be the one the cause of the other, nor has any scientific local enquiry ever been conducted into the extent or the causation of the spread of either. It would appear, however, both from the traditions of the villagers and from records of well water, that they are actually spreading.

Prices. The history of prices in the district is an interesting one. Figures are available for nearly a century past in the case of

bazar prices, and from 1840 onwards for harvest prices, though they are not quite complete except in the case of wheat. One fact which they bring into strong prominence is the great influence of improved communications, and of the railway in particular, in raising the prices of food staples. Between 1815 and 1856 the bazar price of wheat, if we exclude both the famine years and those of exceptional harvests, remained almost stationary, as did that of the other grains, so far as can be ascertained from the more imperfect records. Between 1859 and 1871, however, a remarkable change took place. The average price of wheat rose 53 per cent., that of barley 49 per cent., of *juar* 39 per cent. and of *bajra* 47 per cent., an all-round increase of 47 per cent. This advance was part of a general price movement throughout the country, and due to the new markets opened up by better communications and more rapid means of transit. But while the trader and the grain merchant were finding new and more profitable markets for their produce, the cultivator was not getting his fair share of the increased returns. Harvest prices, though they rose during the post-Mutiny period, did not rise proportionately to bazar prices, and while wheat showed an increase of 53 per cent. in the rate at which the *bania* sold it, the price he paid to the ryot was only 42 per cent. in excess of the pre-Mutiny rates. This considerable difference between bazar prices and harvest prices is of interest as it may be taken as a measure of the degree to which the cultivator is in the grip of the money-lending grain merchant. For while bazar prices are governed by the ordinary laws of supply and demand in an open market with competition, harvest prices represent a bargain between two parties only into which competition does not enter, and where one party has the other at a manifest disadvantage. For the tenant is, by long established usage and his own improvidence, generally dependent to a great extent on the *bania* for his seed and often for his food and the necessaries of life, and has frequently pledged part, if not the whole, of his crop to his creditor beforehand. In such a bargain the purchaser has the seller in a very tight grip, and is not likely to give him more than he can help of the enhanced market prices. The last thirty years show a remarkable change

for the better in this respect. Both bazar and harvest prices have again risen, but the latter no longer lag behind the former as before. In the bazar wheat has increased 18 per cent., barley 30 per cent., *juar* 22 per cent. and *bajra* 32 per cent. in price: but the rise in harvest prices has been still more rapid, wheat advancing 32 per cent., barley 40 per cent., *juar* 55 per cent. and *bajra* 52 per cent., until now the bazar rate stands at only 2 *sers* in the rupee above the harvest prices. The pace at which the harvest price has been overtaking the bazar price may be taken as strong evidence of a change for the better in the cultivator's circumstances; at any rate it shows that he has been able to wrest for himself a relatively much larger proportion of the profits ultimately secured by his produce from the consumer than he used to do.

The all-round rise in the price of agricultural produce has had, as might have been expected, an influence on the rates of pay for agricultural labour, and if high wages are a sign of prosperity, then the field worker in Mainpuri is exceedingly well off. The day labourer has now found that independent farming pays better than day labour, and, entering into the arena of competition, has taken fields of his own. There is a general complaint now among zamindars and others who have to employ day labourers on their fields that labour is both dear and scarce. Even in the last five years there has been a general increase, but in the course of the last half century the wages of all the labouring classes have doubled or more than doubled. Forty years ago a coolie's daily hire in the country was, when paid in cash, one anna and six pies. He cannot now be had under 2½ to 3 annas a day, and even then is retained with difficulty. But, as a rule, the agricultural labourer is still paid in kind, and the usual wage is, in the *kharif* season, 3½ *sers* of maize or *juar*, and in the *rabi* 5 *sers* of wheat or 6 *sers* of *bejhar*, peas or *arhar*. Carpenters and masons are now paid 6 annas and 3 pies a day. In 1866 they earned 3 annas. Tailors, who at the same period were content with the same sum, must now be paid 8 annas. The town coolie and the *beldar*, who in 1866 got 2 annas for a day's work, now receive double that amount, and there is an increasing difficulty in obtaining men Wages.

at these rates. It is a significant fact that the new railway line from Shikohabad to Fatehgarh had to be built largely with imported labour.

Weights and measures. The standards of weights and measures in common use differ little from those of the rest of the Duab. Everywhere intercommunication between district and district and the growing habit of outside trade have tended to do away with local eccentricities of standard, whose inconveniences are acutely felt in dealings with strangers. And the milestones on the Government roads, the hours fixed for the hearing of cases in the Government courts, together with the removal from circulation of the old copper currency, on which the old-fashioned measures of weight and capacity were based, have all acted in the same direction towards uniformity. But in the villages the old customary terms die hard, and the ryot still clings to the ancient standards. The English mile is now the usual measure of distance, though the *kos* of two miles is also commonly employed. For shorter distances the vague terms *goli ka tappa* or musket shot, and *khet*, a field, are used, the one to denote an interval of about 150 yards, and the other the side of a *pakka bigha* or from 56 to 60 yards. The *pakka bigha* is 2,776·25 square yards, or ·5736 of an acre, and 1·743 *bighas* make one acre. It is subdivided, as elsewhere, into 20 *biswas*, each of 20 *biswansis*. Twenty *kachwansis* make one *biswansi*, 20 *nanwansis* one *kachwansi*, and 20 *anwansis* one *nanwansi*. The *bigha* used in poppy measurements is ⅝ths of an acre. The *kachcha bigha*, about one-fifth of an acre, varies in size often in the same village; as a rule, however, 2¼ to 3 *kachcha bighas* will make one *pakka bigha* and about 2½ will form the average. The English yard measure (*gaz*) is commonly employed, but besides it there are local variations of the *gaz* used in particular marts and for certain classes of goods, the one short, from 32½ to 35 inches, and the other long, from 40½ to 45 inches. The latter is commonly used for country cloth and the former for silk. Solids and liquids are sold by weight; for spirits the British reputed quart (bottle) is the standard, and small brass vessels called *ghantis*, which are supposed to hold a quarter of a *ser*, for milk. Two *kachcha* maunds make one *pakka* maund, and one *pakka* maund is

equivalent to 1·25 Government maund, or 50 standard *sers*. The *pakka ser* is supposed to contain 32 *taka* or double pice of the old currency, and the Government *ser* only 26, and is thus, strictly, of $101\frac{9}{16}$ tolas to the other's 80 tolas. But it generally weighs 100 tolas. This is not, however, the only *ser* used. In the east of the district, in Bewar, Kusmara, Ilahabas, Nabiganj and Saman, the *ser* weighs 112 tolas. In the town of Bhongaon the standard is 102 tolas, in Sultanganj 105 tolas, and in the remainder of the district 100 tolas (or in some places $101\frac{9}{16}$). This weight is used at every local market except Sirsaganj and Mainpuri, for wholesale transactions and especially for cotton, but in retail transactions the Government *ser* of 80 tolas is generally employed. A *kachcha panseri* of 5 *sers* is in common use and weighs 250 tolas, or 3¼ Government *sers*, or 2½ *sers pakka*. The word *dhari* is chiefly used for 5 *pakka sers*, or 6¼ Government *sers*. Eight *dharis* make one *pakka* maund and 4 *dharis* one *kachcha* maund.

The current rates of interest vary with the security offered, the status and credit of the borrower and the nature of the transaction. The common loan of seed corn carries interest at 25 per cent. for one harvest or 50 per cent for two, 1¼ maunds being exacted in the former case and 1½ maunds in the latter, on each maund advanced. In addition the borrower has to return the value of the seed grain advanced at the rate prevailing at the time of sowing, which is of course much above the harvest rate. For petty agricultural advances on personal security one anna per rupee for each month of the season, *kharif* or *rabi*, is charged, and two annas if the amount be not paid up at the end of the harvest for which the sum was borrowed. Very often the arrangement is made for a season at four annas for every rupee borrowed, and in the case of sugarcane, which occupies the ground for double the time of an ordinary crop, eight annas in the rupee. For other small loans on personal security an advance of, say, Rs. 10 is made, and in return Rs. 12 are realized in monthly instalments of one rupee for 12 months. These advances are called "*qists*." Where articles of silver are given in pledge the rate varies from 1 pie to 3 pies per rupee per mensem, or from about 6 to 18 per cent. per annum. Where the security is real property there Interest.

is also a good deal of variation, as low a rate as $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. being sometimes charged on unencumbered and well situated estates. The maximum rate for this class of security is 24 per cent. Besides the ubiquitous *bania* or grain merchant, who is the village money-lender, there are a number of banking establishments scattered about the district, and at all the important marts, particularly at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj and Khairgarh. The principal money-lending classes, here as elsewhere, are the Marwari Brahmans (Bohras), Banias, Mahajans and Khattris.

Village banks.

The system of co-operative credit societies originated in 1901 in Mainpuri as in the rest of the provinces, and was relatively extremely successful. There are now 16 village banks registered under Act X of 1904, financed in the main by the central bank of Mainpuri established for this purpose in pursuance of the present policy in these provinces. The rural societies are scattered throughout the district and are supervised by the central bank through its inspector. Seven are very fairly successful, 6 are moderately so and two are not satisfactorily managed in the true co-operative spirit. The Raffeisen system is the one adhered to generally, but loans are occasionally given to members for non-productive purposes unconnected with agriculture. The banks, though fairly successful in view of the backwardness of the district, show defects which are being gradually removed under the guidance of the Registrar, the central bank and the district officials. The main defects are a lack of capital, remissness in repaying loans, an unwieldy number of members, members who do not take any interest in the management of the bank except to draw loans therefrom, and a disinclination to deposit savings. The present policy is to improve these existing societies before starting new ones. Comparatively successful though they are, these banks cannot be said to have attained to the true Raffeisen level of co-operation. The central bank has a capital of Rs. 20,000, which it lends to the rural societies at from 6 to 9 per cent., which in turn lend to their members at from 12 to 18 per cent. The assets of the rural societies amounted on June 30th, 1908, to Rs. 24,845, with liabilities of Rs. 23,573, giving a net profit of Rs. 1,272. These figures were the fourth highest in the provinces.

The industries of the district being mainly agricultural, its exports are mostly of agricultural produce. The two important markets of the district are Sirsaganj and Shikohabad lying on the main line of the East Indian Railway, which was until quite recently the only railway in the district, and it is not surprising, therefore, that the export and import trade has centred in these two towns. The trade of Sirsaganj is roughly estimated at over six lakhs of rupees per annum, and that of Shikohabad at about double that figure. It is too early to expect the new Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Railway to have had any effect in changing the course of trade. The main items of export are cotton, corn and *ghi*, together with a certain quantity of glass. *Ghi* in particular is exported in large quantities and finds its way to Calcutta and other remote places where there is a large demand. The *ghi* is largely produced in the pastoral villages along the Jamna ravines. After these two places Mainpuri ranks third, with similar exports, its trade being about 6 lakhs of rupees per annum. The trade here does not seem to have been much influenced by the new railway so far. In the Karhal tahsil the chief trade centres are Karhal town, Dalelnagar, Barnahal and Terhagaon. The railway stations by which goods are exported are Etawah, Bhadan and Kosma. The Bhongaon and Mustafabad tahsils do not have much trade. In Bhongaon, Bewar and Bhongaon are small market-places, and Bewar does some trade on the Grand Trunk road, receiving, like Kuraoli, grain from as far as Hathras by cart, a proof of the inelastic goods rates on the East Indian Railway. In pargana Mustafabad, Phariha, Jasrana and Khairgarh do a little trade through the railway stations of Firozabad and Makhanpur on the East Indian Railway. The main imports of the district are cloth, *gur* and grain. Trade.

A considerable amount of *kanch* or crude native glass is manufactured in Mainpuri and exported in blocks, sometimes ready coloured and sometimes plain, all over India. A certain amount of the glass is also worked up locally, at Jasrana and Urmara Kirar near Shikohabad in particular, into *churis* or bangles. The glass is made from the *reh*, or saline efflorescence, found so plentifully on the *usar* plains, especially in the Manufactures. Crude glass or *kanch*.

neighbourhood of canals, and is prepared in the following way. A plot of barren, unculturable land near a canal is rented at the beginning of the hot weather, about 50 rupees being paid for an area capable of producing 2,000 maunds of *reh* in one season. This plot is divided up into little square beds or shallow tanks by ledges of mud about 3 inches high and an inch or so of canal water is run over them and left to stand, the surface of each bed being covered by a heavy board. After five or six days the alkaline deposit beneath the soil rises up and dries into little flakes called *papri*, which are scraped off and stored under a thatch. At the end of May, when three or four thousand maunds have been collected, the *reh* is thrown into a kiln in lots of about 400 maunds at a time and heated for twenty-four hours till all moisture has evaporated. It is then taken out and mixed with the other ingredients necessary to produce the crude glass, which is always either greenish-white or black, unless the glassmaker manufactures bangles as well, when he will at the same time add the requisite colouring materials. To make the black glass either a small quantity (1 to 4 per cent.) of black iron oxide and a very little saltpetre is added to the scorched *reh*, or, to produce an inferior quality of glass, about 20 per cent. of sheep or goats' dung is mixed with it. For the greenish-white glass there is added to the *reh* about 4 per cent. of saltpetre and ⅓ to 2 per cent. of *senda*, a red ferrous stone. The mixture is thrown back into the kiln and melted up continuously for about 18 days and nights, after which it is run out into a pit and allowed to cool for another 10 days before being broken up into big blocks ready for exportation. About 300 maunds of glass are produced from the 400 maunds of *reh* employed.

The cost of each fusing is about 270 rupees, and the two biggest items in the bill are labour and fuel, the former averaging about 65 rupees and the latter 100 rupees. As the average selling price of 400 maunds of crude glass is 320 rupees, the profits of each fusing are 50 rupees. As a rule, five fusings take place in the year. Glass-making is not confined to any particular caste, but is chiefly practised by Musalmans, and the manufacturer is always an independent man, employing hired labour.

Glass bangles or *churis.*

In making glass bangles the *kanch* is once more melted and mixed with the requisite colouring matter. Into the fused mass the workman dips an iron hook (*ankuri*) and taking out a ball of glass sufficient for one bangle, winds it off to the end of an iron spit (*sallakh*) in a thick, irregular ring. With an instrument resembling a heavy blunt dagger (*mala*) he taps and squeezes this ring till it is half cooled, when it is worked off the spit by a piece of iron wire and transferred to a clay cone (*kalbut*), which is spun rapidly round and round before the furnace. The heat and motion cause the ring gradually to enlarge and slip down the cone until it has attained the desired size, when it is slipped off and left to cool. A skilled workman can turn out as many as 1,000 in a day, though the average outturn is much less. The wholesale price of the plain, coarse bangles is extraordinarily low, the average selling price in Etawah and Mainpuri being one rupee per 3,000, and Rs. 25 per lakh. The bangle-makers, or *Churihars,* are almost invariably Muhammadans, and the furnaces generally belong to one joint family, who share expenses and profits equally. Boys are employed at the furnaces, and actually outnumber the men, while the women and girls are employed to tie up and pack the bangles. The average daily earnings are less than two annas per head, and it is only by making use of the small children, who are not big enough for other work, that the manufacture can be made to pay.

Tarkashi.

Mainpuri has long been noted for its beautiful wood work inlaid with brass wire, known as *tarkashi* (lit., wire-drawing). The best dark *shisham* is the only wood employed and is purchased locally by the artisans. The articles chiefly turned out are *kharaons* (clogs or sandals), pen holders, small boxes of various shapes, trays, plates and photograph frames of different kinds. There are about twenty artisans in the town engaged in the trade. They are all *Barhais,* who are identical in this district with *Lohars.* The artisan buys chips or scraps of sheet brass and cuts out a thin ribbon-like strip to form the wire. Stars are made of loops of this ribbon. The carpenter does all the work himself with a few simple tools. Where the inlaying is of a new or intrivate design the pattern is copied by a stencil from the original design, the

tool following the pencil marks. The tool used for the incision is a narrow, sharp chisel, after which the strip is gently tapped into place, its narrow edge appearing as the pattern. Curves are rendered very well, and if the work is carefully done, the result is as a rule excellent. The chief drawback is that the work is necessarily very slow and the articles are costly: a plate twelve inches in diameter, for instance, will occupy one workman for 20 days. Moreover, the brass tarnishes after a time, and owing to its being inlaid in wood it cannot be polished in the same manner as ordinary brass articles. Some easy methods of preventing the tarnishing of the brass would considerably increase the sale. To maintain a high standard in the industry, a good workman is employed under the supervision of the district officer and is allowed to manufacture articles of real merit. The ordinary workmen in the town sell their wares to two or three dealers who have shops in the bazar.

Ginning cotton.

There are six power-ginning mills in the district,—one in Mainpuri, three at Shikohabad and two at Sirsaganj. At each of the latter towns one of the mills also presses and bales cotton; they are not, on the whole, successful, suffering from over-production.

Saltpetre.

Nitre earth is common all over this district, and in 1909 there were 295 factories working under an annual license from the Salt Revenue department in the manufacture of crude saltpetre *(shora kham* or *jariya shora)*. These factories are kept running from the month of November until June, and produce from 50 to 100 maunds each of crude saltpetre worth from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 3 a maund. Almost, if not quite, the whole of the crude nitre produced in the district is exported to the saltpetre refineries at Farrukhabad, the largest refining centre in Upper India, where by recrystallization the crude material is refined to 5 per cent. refraction for export oversea from Calcutta. The plant of a crude saltpetre factory consists of an iron boiler *(karahi)*, one or two earthen filtering troughs *(kuria)* about 10 feet long by 3 feet wide by 1 foot deep, several baked earthen vessels *(gharas* and *nands)*, some baskets, a few curved iron earth-scrapers *(khurpi)*, a spade or two and a *kachcha* well. Three or four hands only are required to work a factory, and the

process of manufacture is simple. Fifteen or twenty basketfuls of nitre earth collected from the village site are packed into a *kuria* in which some rows of broken bricks have been arranged with *arhar* stalks placed over them to act as a rough filter. On the packed nitre earth 20 or 25 *gharas* of water are poured. This as it percolates through the nitre earth washes out the salts in it which flow out into a reservoir as brownish brine. This brine, after concentration by boiling for six or seven hours, is set out to crystallize in the *nands*. Next morning the crystals of nitre, mixed with the earthy and other impurities of the brine which have also been deposited, are extracted, placed in a basket to drain, and, when dry, stored in a pit for sale. After extraction of the crystals the surplus liquor in the *nands* is mixed with the next boiling of fresh brine. This residual liquor, or *tor*, is a saturated solution of common salt and nitre, from which common salt of edible quality can be produced by simple evaporation. A few cases of such illicit production of salt in the factories are detected every year by the Salt department and punished, the license, which costs Rs. 2, prohibiting the manufacture of common salt. Thirty years ago the manufacturer of crude saltpetre paid on an average from Rs. 16 to Rs. 18 for the right to collect nitre soil. Such rights now cost from Rs. 20 to Rs. 100 for each factory. Saltpetre used also to be manufactured by a solar evaporation process, but this is now obsolete. Factories for the refinement of crude saltpetre formerly existed at Mainpuri, Bewar, Bhongaon and Dihuli. These may perhaps reopen now that the Farrukhabad-Shikohabad Railway has provided cheaper carriage. Until a few years ago impure sulphate of soda *(khari)* was manufactured by solar evaporation at Nasirpur, some 20 factories being worked and about 3,000 maunds of the crude sulphate produced a year for export to Cawnpore, where it was employed in the leather factories. At present, owing to disagreements of the *zamindars* among one another and with the operatives, the factories are closed. *Rassi* (crude carbonate of soda) was formerly made in this district, but is no longer produced here, probably because the industry has moved into the Cawnpore district, where there are, it is believed, larger and richer tracts of this soda efflorescence.

At Parasrampur in pargana Bhongaon there is a large tract of salt soil where in old times common salt was made. This tract is still rich in saline material and has therefore to be watched in the interests of the salt revenue.

Fairs. A list of fairs is given in the appendix, and, as will be seen, they are numerous. Few, however, are of more than local importance, and almost all are religious in origin. The Jakhaiya fair, held at Paindhat in Magh and Asarh, is famous enough to attract large crowds of visitors from other districts as well as from Mainpuri. Its history and significance will be found described in the directory. There are several Jain *melas* at Karhal and elsewhere, to which Jains resort in large numbers and from great distances. On the festivals of the Ramlila and Kanslila fairs are held at various places and are largely attended by people from the surrounding villages, while the Debi fairs, especially that at Mainpuri, enjoy a very considerable local celebrity and are frequented by crowds.

Communications. Mainpuri is well provided with the means of communication. The recent construction of the Farrukhabad-Shikohabad branch line has brought the district headquarters on to the railway, and the main line of the East Indian Railway traverses the southern corner of the district. Metalled roads are unusually numerous and connect the district with its neighbours.

Railways. The main line of the East Indian Railway runs for 23 miles through the south-west of the district with stations at Makhanpur, Shikohabad (which is the junction for the branch line), Kaurara (for Sirsaganj) and Bhadan. The station of Makhanpur lies in *mauza* Jijauli, Shikohabad in *mauzas* Mihrabad Ubti and Nizampur Garhuma, Kaurara in *mauzas* Tiliani and Kaurara, and Bhadan in *mauza* Bhadan. The Shikohabad-Farrukhabad broad-gauge branch line was opened for passenger traffic between Shikohabad and Mainpuri on the 20th May 1905, and for goods traffic a little earlier. The whole line was opened by the 1st of January 1906. It runs through the centre of the district, with stations at Shikohabad, where it joins the main line, Araon, Kosma, Mainpuri, Bhongaon and Mota, after which it crosses the Kali Nadi into the Farrukhabad district, connecting at Farrukhabad with the Cawnpore-Achnera metre gauge line.

Araon station lies in *mauza* Hajipur Baijua, Kosma station in *mauza* Fazilpur, Mainpuri station in *mauzas* Auren Panraria and Kharpari, Mota station in Tikuri and Husainpur Malhamai, Bhongaon station in *mauza* Mahabatpur. All the railway stations in the district, except Mota, are open to goods traffic. A flag station will shortly be opened near the civil courts in the civil station, and another station is proposed between Kosma and Mainpuri at Tinrauli. The following are the principal bridges on the line: Kali Nadi bridge, 10 spans of 70 feet; Isan Nadi bridge, three spans of 60 feet; Sengar, 7 spans of 39¼ feet; Arind, three spans of 39½ feet; Sirsa Nadi, one span of 40 feet; Ghiror canal escape, three spans of 19½ feet; over the Satini drainage cut one span of 39½ feet and two of 20 feet; Bewar canal, one span of 35 feet; Cawnpore canal, two spans of 53½ and two of 57 feet; Etawah canal, three spans of 36½ feet; Bhognipur canal, three spans of 36½ feet.

A list of the roads in the district will be found in the appendix. They fall into two classes: provincial roads, managed by the Public Works department, and local roads, under the control of the district board. Those of the first class are all raised, metalled and bridged and have in the case of the Grand Trunk Road bungalows and encamping grounds at regular intervals along them. The most important provincial road is the section of the Grand Trunk Road which runs through the district, dividing at Bhongaon into two branches, one of which goes off north-west towards Delhi and the other south-west, towards Agra. The former branch passes through Kuraoli and the latter through Mainpuri and Shikohabad. The total length of the Grand Trunk Road in the district is 89 miles. The only other provincial road is the Farrukhabad and Etawah road, which crosses the Grand Trunk Road at Bewar, and runs south to Kishni, forming the principal line of traffic in the eastern portion of the district. The length of provincial roads in the district is 103 miles, costing Rs. 280 per mile per annum to maintain. The local roads are divided into four classes, the first of which are raised, metalled and bridged. Of these a metalled road, branching off from the Grand Trunk road at Kuraoli, passes through Mainpuri, connecting this town and Etah Roads.

directly with Etawah, while another metalled road passing through Jasrana connects Etah with Shikohabad. The Kosma-Mustafabad road, originally the Jasrana-Mustafabad road, was metalled before the tahsil headquarters were removed from Mustafabad to Jasrana, and is now carried through Ghiror on the Agra-Bhongaon road and Kosma railway station. Other metalled roads run from Shikohabad to Sirsaganj, and to within four miles of Batesar in the Agra district, famous for its horse fair. Various other short lengths of metalled road exist, many of them feeder roads for the railway, but not of sufficient importance to deserve detailed description. The unmetalled roads are divided, as will be seen from the table in the appendix, into three classes. The second class are bridged and drained throughout, and of these the most important is that running from Kishni through Karhal to Sirsaganj. This latter grain and cattle market is the centre of a whole system of roads radiating out to Agra, Mustafabad, Jasrana, Ghiror, Araon, Mainpuri, Karhal, Etawah and Batesar. The Phariha-Mustafabad and Ghiror-Kuraoli roads are also of some importance. The third class roads, which are only partially bridged and drained, and the fourth class, little better than cart tracks, will be found detailed in the appendix.

Inspection houses and *sarais.*

There are inspection houses of the Public Works department at Kuraoli, Sultanganj and Bhongaon on the Grand Trunk Road (without including the canal inspection house at Bewar) and at Mainpuri, Bigrai and Shikohabad on the Agra branch of the same road. On the local roads the only inspection house is at Jasrana, while at Karhal the upper storey of the tahsil serves as a rest-house for inspecting officers. There are also dak bungalows at Mainpuri and Shikohabad with a khansamah at each, who caters for travellers. There are *sarais* at Nabiganj and Kuraoli on the Grand Trunk Road, and also at Mainpuri and Shikohabad.

Canal inspection houses.

There are inspection houses at about every ten miles along each of the main branches, and at other places on the larger distributaries, and each of them is approached by an unmetalled road either running along the bank of the main canal or leading off it, except where the district roads afford facilities of communication. In the Mainpuri division there are bungalows at

Gopalpur (excluding the one permanently occupied by the sub-divisional officer), Muhkampur (Aurangabad), Dannahar, Bhanwat, Dhanraus, Aung (on the Nagaria distributary) on the Cawnpore branch ; Jera (Eka), and Darapur Raseni on the Bhognipur branch ; at Saraiya (Sarai Latif), Bilon, Barauli, Bewar, Simrai (Kuraoli distributary) and Jasmai (Binsia distributary) on the Bewar branch. The Etawah division has bungalows at Patikra, Ghiror, Gangsi, Bujhia (Urthan), Bilanda (Rurua), Saman (Gangsi distributary) and Kurra (Bansak distributary). In the Bhognipur division there are bungalows at Shikohabad, Bhadan and Dhonai (Ubti distributary). In the Aligarh division there is one bungalow at Suraya, and in the Cawnpore division one at Tarha.

CHAPTER III.

The People.

Early enumeration.

The first enumeration of the inhabitants of this district took place in 1847, but was merely the crudest estimate. The procedure followed was to count every *darwaza* or entrance door as the basis. Then ten villages were carefully selected in each pargana, and in these every individual, old and young, was counted. On the results of these enquiries were founded two separate averages for the agricultural and non-agricultural classes, and these averages, applied to all the houses in the pargana, gave its total population. The result was naturally very imperfect, but, omitting the Patiali parganas, now comprised in the Etah district, may be summarized as follows. The total population numbered 479,599 souls, of whom 452,345 were Hindus and 27,254 Musalmans: 71 per cent. of the total population was agricultural, and the average density per square mile 313 only. Three years later, in 1850, a census was taken by Mr. Raikes on a fairly complete enumeration, and gave a total population of 566,085 persons.

In 1853, another official census was held, and as this gives the returns of actual enumeration and was carried out with a good deal more care, it is of rather more value. According to these returns, again excluding the Etah parganas, the total population in 1853 was 634,087, an increase of 12 per cent. over Mr. Raikes' enumeration of 1850, and of this number only 37,107 were Musalmans. The average density per square mile was 414, but varied a great deal from pargana to pargana, rising to 593 in Mainpuri and sinking to 309 in Sauj. 76 per cent. of the population relied entirely upon agriculture for a living. Twelve years later, in 1865, another census was taken, according to which the total population had increased to 700,220, with an average density of 420 to the square mile. This comparatively low ratio of increase may be accounted for by the

inaccuracy of previous enumerations, but is not surprising after the Mutiny of 1857 and the drought of 1860-1.

The percentage of the agricultural population, which is shown as only 63·7, manifests a remarkable decline from the figures of 1853, and can only be explained by different principles of classification. It was during the period preceding this census that the transfer of territory to the Etah district was accomplished. This, however, has been allowed for in giving the figures of previous censuses, and during the same period the district actually received accretions of territory amounting to 85,523 acres from Etawah and Farrukhabad.

Census of 1872.

The census of 1872 puts the number of inhabitants at 765,845 souls, or 452 to the square mile. Hindus were 94·6 per cent. of the total population, and of them 55·9 per cent. were males—a remarkable proportion, which will be dealt with more fully elsewhere. In every pargana, except that of Bewar, the population exceeded 700 to the square mile of cultivation, or 4 souls to every 3 acres under the plough.

Census of 1881.

At the next census in 1881 the population of the district was 801,216, giving a density of 472 to the square mile. The increase in the decade was thus 35,371, which, though inconsiderable when compared with the increases during the same period in the eastern districts of the provinces, yet contrasts favourably with the decreases in the neighbouring districts of Agra, Farrukhabad and Etah, and demonstrates the comparative immunity enjoyed by Mainpuri in the famine of 1877, owing to its advantages of irrigation. The increase among females during the period was much greater than among males, the figures being 20,268 and 15,103 respectively. This phenomenon was almost universal throughout the province and is to be explained as rather apparent than real, being due to the greater accuracy of this census, and the gradual removal of the prejudice against disclosing information regarding their women folk, formerly prevalent among the native population. It cannot be attributed to the measures for the suppression of female infanticide, as the numbers involved are far too great and the increase is common not only to the districts tainted with that crime but to others where it is unknown.

Census of 1891.

At the next census in 1891 the population of the district had diminished to 762,163, a smaller total than that of 1881, and showing a loss of 39,053 or 5 per cent. during the decade. The decrease was general throughout the district except in the Karhal tahsil, the population of which had increased by 268. The explanation of the figures is to be found in the series of wet seasons and agricultural calamities which befell the district during the ten years and have been described elsewhere. The decrease was largest in tahsils Mainpuri and Bhongaon, where the stress of the bad seasons and floods and *kans* had been most severely felt, as also the loss of traffic along the roads. The town of Mainpuri was reported to have at the moment no trade worthy of the name.

The lowest decrease (3·305) was exhibited in the Shikohabad tahsil, which had the advantage of the East Indian Railway passing through it, though even there population was not able to hold its own. Only Karhal, where the surface drainage was excellent and the excessive rainfall, which water-logged the rest of the district, merely replenished the well-supply, succeeded in retaining its population and even in making a minute addition to it. Both the district reports and the census figures indicate a great deal of emigration to other and less afflicted regions, and the shrinkage cannot be attributed wholly to increased mortality or a diminished birth-rate.

Census of 1901.

The figures of the last census point to a great revival of prosperity. The total population was 829,357, the maximum yet reached, being 28,141, or 8·30 per cent., in excess of the 1872 total and showing an increase of 67,194 during the decade.

Density.

The density is 488·7 (well above the provincial average of 427) per square mile of total area and 900 per square mile of cultivation. The most thickly populated tracts are parganas Mainpuri and Shikohabad with 536 and 534 persons to the square mile of total area respectively, and the least thickly populated are parganas Ghiror and Karhal, with their large *usar* plains, where the densities are 423 and 432 only. Pargana Mainpuri has a density per square mile of cultivation of 1,183, even excluding the urban figures of the city of Mainpuri, while pargana Karhal has a similar density of 1,005, Kishni of 991 and Ghiror

of 962. The mean density of population on the cultivated area of the district gives an average of 1·4 acres per head of population, which, combined with an average family of 4·66 persons, gives 6·5 as the average number of acres to an agricultural family. This, while higher than the average in the crowded eastern districts, is considerably below the provincial average.

The census tables show that the district in 1901 contained 1,388 inhabited towns and villages. Of these 1,183 had a population of under 1,000, and of the remainder, 143 contained between one and two thousand, and 53 had more than two thousand but less than five thousand. Among the nine towns or villages with a population of over five thousand are the municipality of Mainpuri with 19,000, the notified area of Shikohabad (10,798), the two Act XX towns of Karhal (6,268) and Bhongaon (5,582) and the large agricultural villages Parham, Nauner, Eka and Saman. The three other towns administered under Act XX of 1856 are Kuraoli, Sirsaganj and Pharha. The Gola Bazar, with a population of 678, though not, properly speaking, a town at all, but only an area within the civil lines to which the Act was applied for convenience of administration, is now included in the Mainpuri civil station notified area. With the exception of Mainpuri itself all the towns have either stagnated or actually decreased in population during the last few decades, though there is reason to anticipate an upward movement in the immediate future in the case of those which are served by the railways, particularly Sirsaganj, now an important centre. The urban population, if the notified areas, Act XX towns and the one municipality be reckoned as urban areas, is a trifle over 6 per cent. of the whole, which is well below the provincial average. But the district is essentially a rural tract, devoted to agriculture and its subsidiary industries. The population in the villages does not as a rule congregate all in one site, but is distributed over the whole *mauza*. There are no less than 4,513 recorded inhabited sites in the district, a phenomenon explained by the agricultural pursuits of the people, the cultivator preferring to live in close proximity to his fields and save the time and labour involved in daily journeys from a central site to the outlying village lands.

Towns and villages.

Migration. At the census of 1891 the decline of population was largely attributed to emigration, and it is probable that the increase in 1901 was in a great measure due to the return of these emigrants after the cessation of the bad seasons. The census tables for 1891 give the percentage of emigrants to the total population in that year as 14·68, of whom 12·52 were emigrants to neighbouring districts. Of the total population enumerated 83·87 per cent. were natives of the district. In 1901 the percentage was 86·46. In other words, the percentage of natives of the district to the total population was greater in 1900 by 2·59 per cent. than at the previous enumeration.

Sex. Excluding the two districts of Dehra Dun and Naini Tal, which are quite exceptional owing to the large number of immigrants, the proportion of women to men is lower in Mainpuri than anywhere else in the provinces, the census tables showing that to every 1,000 men there were only 837 women. The last four enumerations show a steady rise in the proportion. In 1872 the number of females per 1,000 men was 794, in 1881 it was 812 and in 1891 it had increased to 829. Partial explanations of this disproportion between the sexes are to be found in the tendency, already mentioned, to concealment of females at enumeration, and in the practice of female infanticide for which Mainpuri formerly bore an evil reputation; while the gradual improvement may be explained by the increased accuracy of enumeration and the measures taken for the suppression of infanticide. But though Mainpuri is the most conspicuous, there are too many other districts where the proportion is low, for the second explanation to be tenable, nor, in view of the high proportion returned in others, can the first any longer be admitted. In general the eastern districts show an excess of females and the western of males, and it is quite possible that this fact is connected with the distribution of castes, the tendency being for the lower castes to produce more females and the higher castes more males. The figures for some of the larger castes in Mainpuri are instructive in this respect, for we find that to every 1,000 males the number of females is as follows in the following castes: Brahman 718, Rajput 747, Bania 779, Chamar 819, Barhai 827, Kachhi 838, Dhobi 838, Ahir 910, Gadaria 965, Bharbhunja

1,000, Dhanuk 1,135. The difference between the three highest and the three lowest castes here is striking. And it is worthy of remark that the Ahirs are a caste of which some sections at least were formerly prone to infanticide.

Religions.

The returns of 1901 show that Hindus preponderate to an overwhelming extent. Of the total of 829,357, no less than 774,600, or 93·4 per cent., are Hindus in the strict sense. Muhammadans number only 47,794, or 5·76 per cent., Jains 5,318, Aryas 1,250, Christians 353, and Sikhs 42. The distribution by tahsils and police circles will be seen in the tables given in the appendix.

Musalmans.

The Musalmans are mainly congregated in a few villages, largely at and about Qasba Shikohabad and villages in the vicinity, such as Rapri, which, like Shikohabad, was once the seat of a Musalman dynasty. The Musalman population has increased at a somewhat more rapid rate than the Hindu, as is usually the case, the respective percentages being 15 and 9. The different Musalman sects have varied in numbers in a remarkable way in the last thirty years. In 1872 the Shaikhs numbered 20,851; they are now only 8,067. Saiyids show a slight increase, from 2,589 to 3,094; but Pathans, again, have diminished from 11,195 to 6,579. The real increase has taken place in the sects which in 1872 were lumped together without specification to the total of 5,921. Dhuniyas, for example, alone now nearly equal this total, the return giving 5,248 of them, an increase of over 2,000 since 1891. Their primary occupation is the carding of cotton by vibration of a bowstring; but they also go in to some extent for shopkeeping on a small scale. Another sect that now constitutes an important fraction of the Musalman population is that of the Faqirs under their various denominations of Jogi, Ghazi, Turkiya and Regar. They mustered 5,692 members. The Bihishtis with 3,475, the Bhangis or sweepers with 2,419 and the Qassabs or butchers with 2,340 representatives apiece, are, unlike the last, not only of numerical importance, but indispensable to the community. The Julahas, or weavers, contribute 2,274 to the total, and the Kunjras, or Mewa-farosh, whose business, as their name implies, is the sale of fruit and garden produce, can count 1,421. Other sects are

the Manihars, who work in glass and tinfoil, particularly in the decoration of the glass bangles which are among the few arts and crafts of the district, and whose numbers have risen from 1,032 in 1891 to 1,397 in 1900; the Bhatiyaras, properly speaking the keepers of inns and cook-houses, and tobacconists, but also fishermen, who number 1,131; the Banjaras, of whom there are 841 of the Musalman faith, formerly the carriers of India, who, now that the advent of railways and metalled roads has rendered their system of bullock transport to a great extent obsolete, have taken to cultivation and cattle-dealing and have an evil reputation for dacoity and other violent crimes; and the Rangrez or dyers, who have increased from 193 to 712 during the decade. As usual in India, the vast majority of the Musalmans are of the Sunni persuasion, only 392 men and 379 women being returned as Shias.

Jains and Aryas. The figures for Jains exhibit a slight falling off since 1891, when there were 5,760 of them in the district. They are most numerous in Mustafabad, though both Mainpuri and Shikohabad show a good proportion of the total. The Arya Samaj, on the other hand, has, here as elsewhere, made remarkable strides. In 1891 there were only 326 of them; there are now 1,250. Nearly half of this total live in the Bhongaon tahsil, the remainder being pretty evenly distributed through the other tahsils, with the exception of Karhal, which has only 36.

Christianity. In 1881 the number of Christians stood at 146, in 1891, at 132, and in 1901 at 353. The American Presbyterian Mission of Mainpuri dates back to November 1843, when the Rev. J. L. and Mrs. Scott took over from Dr. Guise, the Civil Surgeon, a boys' school he had recently started. The school grew rapidly, and in 1856 Mr. Freeman erected at a cost of Rs. 5,000, subscribed from all parts of India, a new school building. During the Mutiny the missionary's house and the chapel were plundered and burned, and the grounds appropriated by the Raja of Mainpuri, who, however, preserved the school building, using it as a court of justice. In 1858 the mission reoccupied its premises and rebuilt the chapel and house. The mission expanded rapidly, there being built by 1872 one more residence, 10 girls' schools and a normal school, and in 1882 a church was built in the city near

the Lane tank. In 1883 the boys' school was made a high school, the only high school in the district till 1908. Training classes were provided for teachers in 1902. The church in the city was disposed of in 1908 as being unsuitable, and the school building is now used for worship. The present staff consists of two missionary families, four ordained native ministers, three catechists, twenty-six men teachers, eight women teachers and three Bible women at work in Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Jasrana, Kuraoli, Bhongaon and Bewar, and surrounding villages. Ten years ago the baptised community numbered less than 150; to-day (1909) it is about 2,500.

The American Methodists have some work in and about Shikohabad and Kuraoli, with headquarters at Shikohabad. The main body of Native Christians is drawn from the sweeper and Chamar castes.

In Mainpuri, as in the provinces generally, the great majority of Hindus were merely recorded as such, without any further specification of religious denomination. And it is obvious that an illiterate population of agriculturists, like the Hindus of Mainpuri, is not likely to have a very acute appreciation of the subtle distinctions of theoretical Hinduism. From a certain number, however, the questions of the enumerators elicited definite replies, and the more important classes into which these fall may be mentioned. It appears that about 3 per cent. of the Hindu population declared themselves "Monotheistic," between 2 and 3 per cent. were recorded as Vaishnavites and rather more than 1 per cent. as Saivites. The worshippers of Panchon Pir were slightly more numerous than the Saivites. **Hindûs.**

The only other sects with any following worth notice were the Lingaits with 8,025 believers, the Kabir Panthis with 2,193 and the Nanakshahis with 2,843. But if the sects are few, the castes are many, no less than 100 being represented in the district if we include sub-castes, while 209 persons who styled themselves Hindus failed to specify their castes. Sixteen of the castes have a membership of over 10,000 apiece and together make up 88·87 per cent. of the total, and thirteen have less than 100 representatives each. There are no castes peculiar to Mainpuri, though there are several, such as the Ahirs and Kahars, who

are found in greater numbers here than in any other district of the division.

Ahirs.

In point of both numbers and influence the Ahirs come first in the agricultural community. Numbering 142,998 they form 18·46 per cent. of the entire population. They belong to the Nandbans division of the tribe, and their most numerous *gotra* is the Phatak, 83 per cent. of the whole tribe being settled in this district. These latter claim to be of Rajput origin, being descended from a Raja of Chitor by a *dola* marriage with the daughter of Digpal, Raja of Mahaban, an Ahir. They explain their name by the legend that when once Chitor was assaulted by the Emperor of Dehli, of the twelve gates (*phataks*) of the city, only one held out. To commemorate the signal bravery of the guard of the twelfth gate the Raja issued a decree that they and their descendants should ever after be distinguished by the name of Phatak. The descendants of the Raja and his Ahir lady settled first at Samohan, whence they gradually spread till they established themselves along the banks of the Jamna, and from this inaccessible stronghold raided the territory to the north, finally obtaining possession of the whole Sirsa and Jamna duab in pargana Shikohabad. Until quite recent years the Phatak Ahirs kept up their ancestral tradition of lawless violence and were a source of constant anxiety to the district authorities. They were, besides, thorough recusants in paying land revenue and among the worst offenders in the matter of female infanticide, a practice which they probably inherited from their Thakur ancestors. About the middle of the last century their lawless audacity culminated in a deliberate attempt to murder the District Magistrate, Mr. Unwin, in revenge for the energetic measures he had adopted for the suppression of infanticide. Mr. Unwin escaped through a change of plans, but the unfortunate officer, Captain Alcocks, to whom he had given up his *doli*, was killed before the murderers discovered their mistake. The execution of the ringleader, against whom his brother turned approver, exerted a salutary influence on the clan, and a steady amendment of manners has taken place, though they have not yet completely cleared themselves of the suspicion of making away with their girl infants. Strangely enough, during the Mutiny, under the

influence of Rahim-ud-din Khan, Tahsildar of Mustafabad, the Phataks remained for the most part loyal to the Government and aided the Bharaul Ahirs in resisting the rebel Raja Tej Singh. The Phatak Ahirs are not numerous in the district except south of the Sirsa. In the Shikohabad tahsil the fifteen *gots* of the Ahirs form nearly one-fourth of the Hindu population, and in all the tahsils but Bhongaon, where they are slightly outnumbered by both Chamars and Kachhis, they are the numerically largest caste. There are no large individual Ahir *zamindars*, but, like the Thakurs, they generally hold their lands in communities, which are numerous all over the district, except in Alipur Patti. The chief Ahir family in the district is that of Bharaul, in the north of Shikohabad, whose possessions have been augmented by grants of villages as rewards for services in the Mutiny.

Next to the Ahirs in number come the Chamars, of whom there were 107,386, or 13·86 per cent. of the total Hindu population. Most numerous in Bhongaon, they are pretty evenly distributed throughout the district in proportion to the population of the several tahsils. This is natural in a caste which forms the bulk of the labouring population and small artizan class. Owning practically no land they hold as tenants 8·76 per cent. of the total cash-rented area of the district. Their character as cultivators varies; where they are associated with the less industrious castes, their cultivation becomes equally indifferent; but where Kachhis or Lodhas or other good cultivating castes prevail, the Chamars become but very little inferior to them and can pay their high rents with ease. Chamars.

Kachhis numbered 68,382, or 8·83 per cent. of the Hindus, having decreased to some extent of recent years. Most numerous in Bhongaon and Mainpuri, which between them contain two-thirds of the community, they are fewest in Shikohabad, where they form only a trifle over 4 per cent. of the total population. As in other districts they are more successful as cultivators than as land-owners, excelling particularly in market-gardening. Their most important local sub-castes are the Kachwahas and Saksenas, the former claiming descent from the Kachwaha Thakurs by a slave girl, the latter attributing their origin to the famous Buddhist Kachhis.

city of Sankisa on the borders of Mainpuri, Farrukhabad and Etah.

Brahmans.

Very close after the Kachhis come Brahmans, with 68,085 souls, or 8·79 per cent. of the total Hindu population, a very considerable advance on the figures of 1891, when they mustered only 56,301. This caste is pretty equally distributed through the tahsils, being almost exactly 10 per cent. of the total population in Shikohabad and Karhal, 7 per cent. in Mainpuri, and 8 per cent. in the other two. They are not only increasing in numbers but also in importance, coming steadily to the front both as tenants and owners of land, and now hold 20·37 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district. Their villages are generally well, if not strictly, managed and they are good average cultivators. One considerable loss to be set off against the general gain of the Brahman community in the district is the almost complete disappearance of the possessions in this district of the Brahman family of the Chaudhri of Bishangarh (Binsia) of Farrukhabad, owing to spendthrift extravagance, wild litigation and dishonest management by unscrupulous agents. The great majority of the Mainpuri Brahmans belong to the Sanadh subdivision, and trace their descent from the old Chaudhris of Delhi. The principal settlement of Sanadhs is in Barnahal and Bhongaon, where they are steadily increasing their already considerable possessions. Next in importance come the Kanaujiyas, deriving their origin, as their name implies, from Kanauj in Farrukhabad. They furnish a certain number of recruits for Brahman regiments, and are better agriculturists than most other Brahman septs, as they are not above driving the plough themselves, instead of taking only a vicarious part in the operation. The only other section of the caste which is at all numerous is that of the Gaurs. Mention may also be made of the Mathuriyas of Mainpuri town, who are said to have come here with the Chauhans, and the Bhats and Bhadauris, the last of whom subsist by begging and are in low repute. The Mathuriya Chaubes say that their ancestors Kamalakar and Bikarmajit were Chaudhris of Muttra in the time of Ala-ud-din Ghori. They quarrelled with the Musalman Qazi and killed him and so had to fly from the country. Bikarmajit fled to the east, but was

pursued, and in a battle fought at Raya, six miles from Muttra, his four sons were killed. He escaped to Pharauli in the Etah district, where he settled, and his descendants adopted the profession of arms, one of them being a *mansabdar* of 500 horse in Aurangzeb's reign. Many of them took service with the Raja of Mainpuri, and there has been a large colony of them in Mainpuri itself and other villages belonging to the Raja ever since.

Rajputs. Rajputs or Thakurs numbered 67,828, or 8·76 per cent. of the Hindu population. Their distribution varies from slightly over 10 per cent. of the total inhabitants in Shikohabad to rather less than 5 per cent. in Mustafabad. They have increased largely since the last census, when their total number was only 53,550, but have been dwindling somewhat in influence and possessions for a considerable time past. At the last settlement they owned rather more than half the district, 44 per cent. of the total number of villages belonging to them, and their villages being generally the largest. At the recent settlement the percentage of area in their possession was 45·71. They are usually indifferent cultivators and hold their lands in large coparcenary communities, though there are some large proprietors. At the recent census the Mainpuri Rajputs included representatives of 37 different clans, while over 10,000 were recorded merely as Rajputs or Thakurs without specification of clan.

Rajput clans. Chauhans. First in number as in importance come the Chauhans, forming 33 per cent. of the whole. One of the four great Agnikula or fire-born tribes of the Rajputs of the solar line, whose first eponymous ancestor was created, by the prayers and incantations of Vasishta, to war against the demons who defiled and rendered vain the Brahmans' sacrifice, their genealogical tree gives thirty-nine princes anterior to Prithiraj, from whom the Mainpuri Chauhans claim descent. Prithiraj was the last Chauhan King of Delhi and lost his life and throne in 1193 A.D. after his defeat at Panipat by Muhammad Shahab-ud-din Ghori. But the genealogy is contested, and it is probable that the real founder of this branch of the clan was Deo Brahm, a less distinguished cadet of the same house, who at some time after the defeat of Prithiraj and the fall of the Chauhan dynasty came with a numerous following to Bhongaon, and settled down

about a mile to the east of that town. Here he built a village, which was subsequently enlarged and fortified by Pratap Rudra, the fourth in descent from Deo Brahm, after whom it to this day bears the name of Partappur. This Pratap Rudra is perhaps the Rai Partap who in the reign of Bahlol Lodi (1450 to 1488) held Bhongaon, Patiali and Kampil. A strong point in favour of the identification of this Rai Pratap with Pratap Rudra is that according to both the genealogists and the Musalman historians his son's name was Narsingh Deo, who was assassinated by Darya Khan Lodi about 1454 A.D. But these dates make the interval of nearly 300 years between the death of Prithiraj and the era of Rai Partap somewhat difficult to bridge. Even the Mainpuri traditions, which give the names of all the princes in the direct line from Prithiraj to Partap Rudra with the length of their reigns, fail to account for more than 170 years from the death of the former to the accession of the latter. So there must be an "error in the compute" somewhere. It is possible, of course, that "Rai Pratap" may have been a generic term used by the Musalman writers, notoriously indifferent about details when discoursing of infidels, to denote the chief of Bhongaon for the time being. Jagat Man, the eighth in descent from Pratap Rudra, transferred his seat from Pratappur to Mahabatpur or Jagatnagar, which now forms the western suburb of the town of Bhongaon. He took arms against the aboriginal Chirars, who had, by their lawless habits, become a source of much annoyance to the Musalman Government, and, as one tradition goes, fell suddenly upon them while congregated with their wives and families at a great religious fair at Jamaura, and, with the assistance of the Kayasths of Bhongaon, slaughtered them without distinction of age or sex. According to another tradition, on the advice of the Kayasths, he invited the Chirars to a feast, and, when they were stupefied with liquor, the combined Chauhan and Kayasth forces attacked and massacred them in cold blood, filling up the measure of their treachery by butchering the pregnant women and children. From the part they acted on this occasion the Bhongaon Kayasths are said to have earned the nickname of *Chugalmar* or tale bearer, which still sticks to them. What is certain is that the Chauhans

took a leading part in the subjugation of these aborigines and thereby gained the favour of the Musalman Government, while at the same time they annexed the extensive possessions of the Chirars and thus considerably increased their influence. Owing to subsequent trouble with these Chirars, and probably in dread of the jealousy which his rising power might excite in the *amils*, Jagat Man deemed it prudent to retire from Jagatpur to the extensive Khera of Asauli, which he had taken from the Chirars, and there he built a fort and established himself. Not long afterwards, however, he transferred his headquarters to Mainpuri, where, assuming for the first time the title of Raja, he laid the foundation of the present fort, in which the head of the family has since resided. No historical facts worthy of notice are recorded of the family till the time of Dalip Singh, the fifth in descent from Jagat Man, who, in an encounter with Bhuri Khan, an officer of the Farrukhabad Nawab, was defeated, taken prisoner and slain. His widows committed *sati*, an act commemorated to the present day in a memorial building. His successor seems to have revived the prestige of the family, for in 1749 he is found busy in extending the city and founding Muhkamganj, now the most populous and commercial quarter of the town. The name was given in honour of his childless brother Muhkam Singh. With Sultan Singh, Jaswant Singh's successor, the direct line of descent was broken, for he died childless, and a collateral relative, Dalel Singh, was summoned from Angautha, in the Mainpuri pargana, to assume the headship of the clan. He was the reigning Raja at the cession in 1801, and received a *khilat* and a *parwana* from Lord Wellesley in 1803 for his loyalty in attacking and driving off the Marathas from Shikohabad, and he afterwards rendered good service against Holkar in 1805. He died in 1829 and was succeeded by his son Raja Ganga Singh, during whose life time a serious blow was dealt to the fortunes of the house, a protracted enquiry during the progress of settlement operations made by Mr. Edmonstone resulting in the Raja losing proprietary rights in upwards of 200 villages, which had long been considered part of the family domains, and receiving in lieu thereof only a fixed percentage on the assets as *malikana*. In 1849, on the death

of Raja Ganga Singh, his brother Narpat Singh succeeded to the title, but died after holding it only two years. A dispute arose as to the succession, which was eventually decided in favour of his son Tej Singh, to the exclusion of his uncle Zalim Singh, who appealed to the Privy Council. While the appeal was pending the Mutiny broke out. Tej Singh rebelled: the Raj was confiscated and ultimately bestowed on his cousin Bhawani Singh, who had remained loyal during the outbreak, though the title was conferred only as a personal honour. The present Raja Sheomangal Singh, whose title was made hereditary on the 25th June 1909, is the grandson of Bhawani Singh.

Other Rajput clans.

Other clans important in this district on account of their numbers are the Jadon (5,038), the Bais (4,267), the Rathor (4,064), the Bhadauria (2,727), the Tomar (2,382), the Gaur (2,375), the Parihar (1,864), the Kachwaha (1,720) and the Dhakra (1,630). At the 1891 census the Mainpuri Jadons numbered only 1,348, and the present figures are to be explained by the fact that the Kirars, whose claim to be reckoned as Rajputs was allowed at this census, have returned themselves as belonging to this sept, which is styled by Colonel Tod "the most illustrious of all the tribes of Ind," and claims descent through the Yaduvansi from Krishna. The leading Jadon in this district, and the only one whose claim to kinship is allowed by the Karauli Darbar, is the Thakur of Phariha Kotla. The family of the Raja of Awa, which owns several villages in pargana Mustafabad, is described in full in the Etah Gazetteer. The Bais Thakurs claim to be true Tilokchandi Bais, who emigrated from Dundiakhera in Baiswara in the fourteenth century and settled in Bewar, which they colonized. As far back as 1391-2 A.D. they in concert with the Rathors created such disturbances here and in Farrukhabad that large bodies of imperial troops had to be sent out to quell them. They still own a large number of villages in that pargana and several also in Barnahal and Shikohabad. Dihuli, the chief seat in Barnahal, is mentioned in the *Tarikh-i-Mubarik Shah* as "the strongest place in the possession of the infidels," and as having been attacked and destroyed in 1420 A.D. by Sultan Khizr Khan on his march from Koil to Etawah. Always noted for turbulence and recusancy, it was probably from them that

Akbar met with the resistance at Paraunkh, in pargana Bewar, which is described in the history. In the Mutiny, again, Ganga Singh of Dihuli, the recognized head of the family, rebelled, and his property was confiscated. The Rathors are descended from an inferior branch of the Kanauj family known as the Dhir Sah Sakha, and formerly owned a *chaurasi* (or group of 84 villages) in Kuraoli, Bhongaon, Mainpuri and the neighbouring parganas of the Etah district, where they settled after their expulsion from Kanauj on the defeat of the celebrated Jai Chand by Muhammad Ghori. The Sujrai family, in which the title Chaudhri is hereditary, is the head of the clan. The Bhadauriyas are chiefly met with in Shikohabad, where the Raja of Bhadawar in the Agra district, the head of the clán, owns the two *kachhar* villages of Bhurtar and Kalianpur on the Jamna, facing Batesar. They are revenue-free in perpetuity and are at present managed by the Court of Wards. The Tomars are scattered over the district and do not occur in compact bodies with definite historical associations. They say they come from beyond the Chambal. The Gaurs are said to have come from Katehri, and their story is that the daughter of one of their leaders married the son of the Raja of Mainpuri and the clan thereby obtained eight Ahir villages. The Ahirs, however, say that they took from the Gaurs five out of twelve villages appropriated by the latter from the Chirars. The Parihars, who at the 1891 census numbered only 685, had in the past an unsavoury reputation as lawless desperadoes, which, however, they no longer deserve. Legend makes them the first-born of the four Agnikula, whose ancestor was found incompetent to war with the demons, and so placed as guardian of the gate (*Prithi ka dwara*=Pharihara). The Kachwahas from across the Chambal hold a couple of villages in pargana Mainpuri and shares in villages in Alipur Patti. They say they came here in consequence of a marriage with a member of the Chauhan family of Mainpuri, and the head of their clan resides at Deopura, close to the city. The Dhakras are chiefly found in Shikohabad, Barnahal, Mustafabad and Kishni, where their possessions are now small, though they once owned a wide territory. They seem to have come from Ajmer early in the sixteenth century and to have gained a firm footing in that

line of country now traversed by the East Indian Railway from Etawah to Barhan in Jalesar. They were notorious in the beginning of the eighteenth century for their lawless depredations and gave the imperial officers much trouble in the neighbourhood of Agra, rendering the communications between that city and Etawah insecure. Their insubordinate conduct brought its own punishment, for before the close of the century they had greatly diminished in numbers and their possessions had dwindled down to a few scattered villages. Other representatives of great Rajput clans are the Gautams, Bachhals, Raghubansis, Bargujars and Gahlots, but neither their numbers nor their influence are sufficient to warrant detailed description. Mention may, however, be made of the Tanks, who are no longer separately recorded in the census, on account of a remarkable feature of their tribal organization. Originally settled in a cluster of 12½ villages, called the *Sarhebarah gaon,* round Kosma, in the Ghiror pargana, they were always noted for their predatory habits, and in the reign of Akbar they attacked and plundered an imperial convoy. As a punishment for this daring robbery one of the two brother chiefs was carried off to the capital and there compelled to embrace the Muhammadan religion. Ever since then the family and property have been divided into two sections, "Kosma Muslimin" and "Kosma Hinud," and, strangely enough, the head of the Musalman section is equally looked up to by the whole Tank community with the head of the Hindu branch, and the joint headship is fully recognized by every member in all matters affecting the internal economy of the clan, while the customs of the converts to Islam still partake greatly of a Hindu character. Reference may also be made to the Bhale Sultan tribe on account of the extraordinary disproportion between the sexes, only 4 males being recorded to 109 females. The Raja of Tirwa, who is a Baghela Rajput, owns considerable property in Barnahal and also the village of Tinraoli in pargana Mainpuri: an account of his family is given in the Farrukhabad Gazetteer.

Lodhas. Sixth in numerical importance comes the Lodha caste with a membership of 47,688, or 6·15 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are first-rate cultivators and hold 7·45 per cent. of the total cash-rented area as tenants, and a great deal more as sub-tenants

of Thakurs and Brahmans, who cannot so far derogate from their dignity as to touch a plough. But for all their excellence as cultivators they are not successful landowners and their proprietary holdings have been steadily diminishing till they now own only ·39 per cent. of the total cultivated area. Like the Kachhis they claim a Rajput origin, and are probably the offspring of Aryan fathers and aboriginal mothers. They are pretty evenly distributed among the tahsils except in Karhal, where they only number 1,705.

Gadariyas. The Gadariyas, or shepherd caste, are found in Mainpuri to the number of 31,785, or 4·10 per cent. of the Hindus in the district, a small increase on the figures of the previous census. In addition to the practice of their titular vocation, they have long since taken to cultivation and now hold 3·38 per cent. of the cash-rented area. At the 1840 settlement Gadariyas were among the village communities engaged as *biswadars*, but they early lost their rights and sank from proprietors to tenants. They do not favour any particular portion of the district, but are found in all tahsils alike.

Kahars. The Kahars or Dhimars, formerly the carriers of palanquins, now cultivators, particularly of water-nuts, and fishermen, amounted in 1901 to 26,471, or 3·42 per cent of the Hindu population of the district. They are chiefly concentrated in the Bhongaon and Mainpuri tahsils, but about one-third of them are divided up in almost equal proportions among the other three. As tenants they hold 1·45 per cent. of the cash-rented area, but the majority of them are engaged in various pursuits connected with the water, especially in fishing, of which they practically have the monopoly, most of the tanks and rivers being leased out to them.

Banias. The great trading and money-lending caste of Banias, with its Mahajan and Marwari sub-divisions, is represented by 22,459 members in this district, less than 3 per cent. of the Hindu population. Of this total no less than 9,456 are Mahajans, who in the Mainpuri tahsil outnumber the Banias by more than four to one. This tahsil also contains almost all the Marwaris, only nine being found in Bhongaon and one in Karhal. In this district as in all others the caste is slowly but surely ousting the

cultivating classes proper from their proprietorship of the land, though here the process has begun later and developed more slowly than in many places. In 1873 the Banias held 4·53 per cent. of the district as proprietors; the percentage in their hands is now 8·21. This tendency of the land to pass into the hands of the trading classes is pretty general all over the district, and only in parganas Kuraoli and Bewar has it been resisted at all successfully: in the latter case no doubt because until the opening of the new canal that pargana offered singularly few attractions to the prudent investor. Very few Banias take to cultivation as tenants, only ·23 per cent. of the cash-rented area being held by this caste. They do not make good landlords. Generally absentees they regard their villages purely in the light of investments which are to be made to yield the maximum return possible, and their management is accordingly strict and merciless.

Other castes. No other caste is found in numbers exceeding twenty thousand, but Koris, Telis, Nais, Barhais, Dhanuks, Dhobis and Kumhars have each over ten thousand apiece. Koris numbered 18,661, an increase of over 4,000 since the previous census, and were found principally in Bhongaon, though occurring in considerable numbers in all tahsils. They are the Hindu weaver caste and for the most part follow their traditional avocation, though some have taken to agriculture and others to masonry work. The Telis, or oil-pressers, of whom there were 15,496, are generally regarded as one of the lowest of all castes. In this district, however, their pretensions are considerable, as they claim to have originally been Rathors of Kanauj. This claim is not, however, recognized outside their own community. Their numbers have increased by 3,000 during the decade, though the competition of foreign mineral oil has seriously affected their business and driven many of them to seek new spheres of labour. The Nais, or barbers, amounted to 15,320, distributed as is natural pretty evenly over the district. They hold a prominent place among the village servants, exercising not only the functions of hair-cutting, shaving and massage, but also, as in eighteenth century Europe, the craft of the physician. In addition to all this the Nai is the general village matchmaker and go-between in matters of marriage and betrothal, while, at a pinch,

if no Brahman be available, he will himself officiate at a wedding or a funeral. Another important village menial, the Barhai, or carpenter, was represented by 15,279 members. He makes and repairs the village carts, ploughs and other agricultural implements, generally receiving a fixed allowance of grain annually as a salary therefor. The Dhanuks, again, of whom 14,863 were enumerated, are mostly village servants, the men acting as watchmen, messengers and musicians at weddings, and the women as midwives. The men also work as day labourers and sometimes do a little cultivation, being occasionally remunerated for their services with a patch of rent-free land. Two other castes whose labours are indispensable to the village community reckoned over 10,000 members apiece—the Dhobis, or washermen, with 13,721, and the Kumhars, or potters, with 11,890. Next in number, but much above these in importance, come the Kayasths with 9,223. Though they only make up a little more than 1 per cent. of the population, they hold as proprietors 5·43 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district, and formerly owned a still greater part of it. Scattered over all the tahsils they are probably the descendants of individual adventurers who followed the fortunes of other invaders and made themselves invaluable to their masters as scribes and accountants. Under the Musalmans several of them became hereditary *qanungos*, and they appear to have gradually converted the assignments of revenue which remunerated their services into assignments of *zamindari*, thus acquiring considerable landed interests. Their descendants have now largely dissipated the ancestral property by idleness and sloth, but they still hold large estates in Bhongaon, Bewar, Alipur patti, Kuraoli, Mainpuri and Shikohabad. In the last-named tahsil two branches of the clan—one at Madanpur and the other at Qasba Shikohabad—have well maintained their positions as *zamindars* and *raises*. The Madanpur branch in particular, whose head is Lala Madho Narayan, manage their estates well and are good landlords. They did loyal service in the Mutiny and received some villages in reward. Most of the *patwaris* and *qanungos* in the district are Kayasths, and they fill many other appointments in Government service. Other castes with a membership of over 5,000 are the necessary Bhangi, the Bharbhunja,

or grain-parcher, that excellent agriculturist the Kurmi, the Lohar or blacksmith, and the Faqir. The remaining castes whose numbers exceed 2,000 are Sunars, Darzis, Khatiks, Kadheras, Bhats, Malis, Tambolis, Luniyas, Kewats and Arakhs. Of these Kadheras may be singled out for comment as a comparatively rare caste, who are found here to the number of 3,030, nearly all in Shikohabad. They appear to be a sub-caste of Mallahs, who have abandoned their ancestral occupation as boatmen for the cultivation of riverain land and now congregate in the Jamna villages tilling the *kachhar* soils of the ravines. Tambolis, again, who grow, and Baris, who sell the *pan* or aromatic leaf of the *piper betel*, are found here in somewhat unusual numbers. Of the less numerous castes the Khattris deserve mention as, though they muster only 146 members all told, they yet own 31,925 acres, or 2·98 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district.

Criminal tribes.

Mainpuri contains representatives of most of the criminal and wandering tribes, though they have as a rule settled down into more peaceful and law-abiding ways of life. It is true that neither the Haburah nor the Sansiya figures in the census list, though the former certainly frequents the district. But this can be readily accounted for by the well-known aversion of these tribes to reveal their identity when questioned—a reticence born of much police supervision. Most numerous were the Nats, of whom there were 1,664, the principal gipsy tribe of the provinces, whose men are often acrobats and rope-dancers, and the women prostitutes. They practise surgery and physic in a small way and are adept thieves. The Khangars, of whom only 59 were enumerated at the previous census, had increased by 1901 to 1,540, a figure which implies either large immigration or some remarkable change of classification. These, though not exactly a criminal tribe, are prone to commit theft and burglaries. Some way behind these were the Basors, who totalled 767, a much less offensive race than either of the two already mentioned. They are now settled in villages, mostly in the Bhongaon tahsil, which contains 622 of them, and earn their living for the most part as day labourers, keeping pigs and doing a little cultivation as well. They are a backward tribe of a degraded type, but considerably

reformed in their habits in regard to crime. Next in numbers and very similar in character to the last come the Pasis, of whom 357 were enumerated, mostly in Shikohabad and Mainpuri, and after them the Berias to the number of 308. This is one of the worst of all the criminal tribes: irreclaimable vagrants and criminals, they wander gipsy-like over the country with no ostensible means of subsistence, but actually supported by theft, robbery and the prostitution of their women. The Kanjars have very greatly diminished in numbers since the 1891 census, when there were 459 of them. There are now only 97, nearly all in the Mainpuri tahsil. They are gipsies and hunters, making a living by the manufacture of mats, baskets, ropes, and drums, and the collection and sale of the roots of the *khas* grass. They are now tending to abandon their old vagrant mode of life and settle down in villages. Probably this tendency and the accompanying desire to conceal their disreputable origin by self-enrolment in some other caste may account for a good deal of their apparent diminution at this census.

Occupations.

As is to be expected in a district so devoid of large towns and industries the vast majority of the population is employed in and supported by agriculture. The census returns show 70·4 per cent. of the people as dependent on this means of livelihood, a figure distinctly above the provincial average of 65·4. This includes *zamindars*, tenants and sub-tenants as well as farm servants and field labourers. The allied occupation of the pasture and care of animals only employed about ·8 per cent. of the population, while just over 6 per cent. relied on unskilled labour other than agricultural for their living. The industrial population formed 12·7 per cent. of the whole, composed for the most part of those engaged in the preparation and supply of material substances, principally food and drink, though weavers and metal-workers, potters and carpenters, and similar traders all come under this head. Commerce was represented by only ·3 per cent. of the population, an extraordinarily low proportion, well below the provincial percentage of ·7. For census purposes money-lending, banking, agency and brokerage, as well as general trading and shop-keeping, are reckoned as commercial pursuits, but not the transport and storage of goods, businesses

which claimed ·4 per cent. of the population. The learned and artistic professions engaged ·8 per cent. of the people, though it may be noted in passing that literature was unrepresented in the district. Rather more than 1 per cent. of the total population was taken up by the administration of the district in all its various branches, while nearly 1·5 per cent. were of independent means, an elastic term covering gentlemen of property, pensioners, beggars, and those entertained at the State's charges in prisons and reformatories.

Language and literature.

The prevailing language in common use is that known as the Braj dialect of western Hindi, the tongue generally employed in Aligarh, Muttra, Agra, Etah and Bareilly; but lying as Mainpuri does next door to Farrukhabad, the home of the Kanaujia dialect, there is a strong tendency along its eastern border to blend the two speeches. The main peculiarities in pronunciation differentiating the local speech from ordinary Hindi are the habits of substituting a final "*o*" for all other vowel terminations; the alteration of initial "*w*" and "*y*" to *j*, as in *juh*, *jih* for *wuh*, *yih*, and the use of a short "*i*" for "*a*" as *jhigra* for *jhagra*. The census returns reveal an extraordinary homogeneity in language through the district, no less than 9,999 persons out of every 10,000 being returned as speaking western Hindi, a higher proportion than in any other district of the provinces. The tongue of the ten-thousandth individual was Bengali. Literature is not much esteemed in Mainpuri, no one confessing to its practice at the census.

Printing presses.

There are two job-printing presses in Mainpuri town, and the sole periodical is the *Vaish Hitaishi* of Bewar, a journal with a very limited circulation and of anti-Government tone.

Proprietary tenures.

All kinds of proprietary tenures exist, including *zamindari*, both single and joint, perfect *pattidari*, imperfect *pattidari*, *bhaiyachara* and a peculiar form known as the *tor* or *tauzi* tenure found in two villages of pargana Ghiror. Inferior and superior proprietary rights also prevail largely in tahsils Mainpuri and Bhongaon, and to some extent in Mustafabad. But the feature of the landholding tenures of the district is still the large area held by large communities, which may be further described as

huge, struggling brotherhoods of peasant proprietors, all of them, except a few more fortunate individual members, more or less permanently indebted or financially embarrassed. These bodies still hold 57 per cent. of the whole district, though they have lost 7 per cent. of the whole, or 11 per cent. of their possessions, since the previous settlement. The imperfect *pattidari* form of tenure now occupies 43 per cent. as against 56 per cent. then, and perfect *pattidari* 11 per cent. as against 5 per cent. The *bhaiyachara* tenure has maintained its area at 3 per cent. Single *zamindari* now holds 25 per cent. of the total as against 20 per cent. then; and joint *zamindari* 18 per cent. as against 16 per cent. The number of proprietors is now large, amounting to 37,143, which gives an average area per head of 29 acres only, as contrasted with 21,925 at last settlement and an average proprietary holding of 50 acres. No doubt a large portion of this increase in the number of proprietors is due merely to the more complete recording of the individual proprietary interests; but their growing numbers are certainly pressing on the large communities. As an illustration of the size of these communities may be mentioned the village of Pariyar in the Jamna ravines, the recorded co-sharers of which exceed 2,600. Other villages have almost as many.

***Tauzi* tenure.**

The *tauzi* tenure, to which reference has been made, prevails in two villages of Faizpur and Nasirpur in pargana Ghiror. It differs from the ordinary tenures in being based not on the bigha and its twenty biswas, but on a unit of its own, which depends on the artificial classification of the soils into *gauhan*, *manjha* and *barha*. In Faizpur an allotment of land from each of these classes in the proportion of 6 bighas *gauhan*, 8 bighas *manjha* and 10 bighas *barha* makes up what is known as "one bigha *tauzi*." There are 819 of these *tauzi* bighas in the village: *i. e.* 819 equal shares, and profits and liabilities are distributed accordingly. In Nasirpur the proportion of the three classes of land which go to form a *tauzi* bigha are 25 bighas *gauhan*, 30 bighas *manjha* and 35 bighas *barha*, and there are 154¾ such bighas or shares in the village. The interests of co-sharers in these two villages are therefore recorded in " bighas

tauzi" and fractions thereof instead of biswas, as in *zamindari* and *pattidari* tenures. The advantages of such a standard are obvious in dividing up common land.

Propriet-ary castes.

The proprietary distribution of the land has already been dealt with when describing the various castes, but a summary of it will be convenient here. Thakurs are still by far the most important landowning class, still retaining possession of 45·71 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district, though they have lost 73,479 acres since last settlement, when they held 51·87 per cent. The bulk of their possessions is still in the hands of communities, particularly to the east and in the centre of the district, though there are several large estates belonging to the Rajas of Mainpuri, Awagarh in Etah, Tirwa in Farrukhabad, Partabnair in Etawah, Bhadawar in Agra, and the head of the Phariha Kotla family, as well as the large proprietors of Saman, Pundri, Milaoli, Muhammadpur Labhaua, Sujrai and Uresar. Next come Brahmans, whose percentage has increased in thirty years from 19·22 to 20·37, and after them Ahirs with 10·08 per cent., whose losses slightly exceed the Brahmans' gains. There are no large individual Ahir *zamindars,* but their communities, like those of the Thakurs, are found in large numbers all over the district, except in Alipur Patti. Kayasths take the fourth place with 5·43 per cent. and Banias the fifth with 5·21. At the 1873 settlement the possessions of the former were more than double those of the latter. Khattris come next with 2·98 per cent., having more than trebled the area they own since 1873, and close after them Musalmans with 2·66 per cent., a less remarkable but still appreciable increase on the 2·28 which they held before. The other money-lending castes of Marwaris and Mahajans follow with 1·60 and 1·40 per cent. respectively, both having more than doubled their holdings during the thirty years' period. Of the remaining castes the principal are the Lodhas, Goshains, Sunars and Jats, but the area held by them is still very small, though increasing in the case of all but the Jats.

The Raja of Eka.

There are, as already observed, few large proprietors in the district. Of the principal family, that of the Raja of Mainpuri, an account has been given when dealing with the Chauhan clan of Rajputs, of whom that house is the most important branch.

Other notables who hold estates in this district have been touched upon in the gazetteers of the districts with which they are more nearly connected. Chief among these are the Raja of Partabnair and the Rani of Lakhna, both of the Etawah district, who hold some property in tahsil Karhal. Of those whose headquarters are situated in Mainpuri the chief is the Raja of Eka, the representative of a younger branch of the great Chauhan sept, more nearly allied to the Partabnair than to the Mainpuri wing of the family. Nothing certain is known of the early history of this house except that it has long been established in pargana Mustafabad, where the other large Thakur *zamindars* of Uresar and Milaoli are offshoots from it. The title is ancestral in the family and was from the first recognized by the British Government, but the estate is now greatly diminished both in area and importance, many of the villages having passed into the hands of a bania of Hathras under the terms of a mortgage. Only one village and one *patti* assessed at Rs. 12,400 are now left of all the former possessions of the family in this district. The present holder of the title is Raja Narotam Singh, and his heir is Lal Raj Kumar.

Phariha Kotla estates.

The family of Jadon Thakurs who hold Phariha and other villages in Mustafabad and the Kotla estate in Agra claim the title of Raja. This claim has never been allowed by the British Government, though the right is recognized by other Rajput chiefs and in popular parlance. They are descended from Bijai Pal of the Kuraoli family. The fifteenth in direct descent from Bijai Pal was Raja Tulsi Das, appointed a commander of 300 by Akbar, and frequently mentioned in both the *Akbarnama* and *Ain-i-Akbari*, where a sketch of his life is given. Raja Harkishan Das, the sixth in descent from him, who received from the Emperor Aurangzeb the title of Bahadur, acquired the villages of Pariha and Kotla as well as a large tract of neighbouring country, but most of this was lost again in 1784, when Harkishan Das's son, Puhap Singh, was killed in a vain effort to resist the advance of Sindhia. The whole estate was included in the *jagir* granted to DeBoigne by Sindhia. On DeBoigne's departure for Europe Puhap Singh's son, Ishwari Singh, recovered 42 villages in perpetual (*istimrari*) tenure as a reward for services rendered to Lord Lake, but as he consistently

failed to pay his revenue, the Phariha Kotla estate was in 1810 included in the *istimrari sanad* granted to Hira Singh of Awagarh. On the latter's death in 1831 the property was once more restored to the former proprietors and permanently settled with Ishwari Singh's son, Sumer Singh. His grandson's widow, Mahtab Kunwar, displayed consistent loyalty throughout the Mutiny. Though dispossessed by a rival, the Thakurani Dhan Kunwar of the village of Phariha, she did her utmost to support the Government in Mustafabad, aiding the local officers with men and money. Her daughter, the Rani Jas Kunwar, had no child, so in May 1905 she transferred the estate to the present proprietor, Thakur Kushal Pal Singh, a collateral descendant from Harkishan Das Bahadur. He is a remarkably well educated man, holding the degrees of M.A. and LL.B. and the membership of a large number of learned societies. An experimental farm has been started on his estate at Phariha. The Sujrai estate in pargana Kuraoli is now owned by a minor and is managed by the Court of Wards. The title of Chaudhri is hereditary in the family, and Chaudhri Lachhman Singh, the grandfather of the present representative, was in 1868 raised to the dignity of Raja of Kuraoli as a reward for his services in the Mutiny. His successor, however, forfeited the title by misconduct. The family belongs to the Rathor class of Rajputs. The Qanungo families of Shikohabad have already been mentioned, and of the others the only ones worthy of even a passing notice are the Kayasth Chaudhris of Bhongaon, the Chauhans of Tinroli and Arjunpur, the Sanadh Brahmans of Alipur patti, the Raghubansi Rajputs of Kalhor, the Marwari Brahmans of Khairgarh, Rampur and Parham, the Shaikhs of Aswa, the Kirars of Labhaua, the Chaudhris of Bharaul, the Bais of Bewar and Dihuli and the Thakurs of Saman. None of these have any claims to a detailed description either on account of their past or present importance.

Cultivating tenures.

The cultivating tenures are the ordinary ones which prevail throughout the province. The only remarkable feature which they present in this district is the unusually large area held by privileged tenants and the equally unusual tendency of that area to expand even at the present time. At the 1873 settlement

the amount of land held by occupancy tenants was commented on as "a peculiar feature of the district worthy of special notice, showing the singular fixity of the cultivating tenure and the tenacity with which the agriculturist in Mainpuri has clung to his land." The percentage was then 59·73; it is now 61·55, or if the old *sir* lands held by dispossessed proprietors as tenants be included, as they appear to have been in the 1873 figures, 63·4. The only parganas in which there have been decreases in the occupancy areas are Bhongaon, Alipur patti and Bewar, all in the northern *bhur* tract, and here they were due not to oppressive action on the part of landlords, but to voluntary surrender of lands deteriorated by the agricultural calamities of the eighties. Everywhere else the increase is well marked, particularly in Mustafabad, where the privileged area has expanded from 51·66 per cent. to 65·81 per cent., in Barnahal, where the advance has been from 56·87 per cent. to 63·43 per cent., and in Karhal, where 66·26 per cent. is now held in occupancy right instead of 58·78. The proprietors have not, as a rule, been strong enough to interfere with the acquisition of rights of occupancy by a tenantry consisting for the most part of Thakurs and Ahirs, nor, indeed, do they appear to have attempted to do so. The non-occupancy area, which was 21·53 per cent. of the whole at the last settlement, has now diminished to 18·77 per cent., and it is a fact worthy of note as illustrating the strong hold of the occupancy tenant upon the land that 17·5 per cent. of this is held by occupancy tenants in addition to their occupancy holdings.

Cultivating castes.

The leading cultivating caste is still that of the Ahirs, with 28·21 per cent. of the tenants' cash-rented area, nearly twice as much as that held by their nearest competitors, the Thakurs, who hold 14·88 per cent. Next come the Brahmans with 12·67, the Kachhis with 9·34, Chamars with 8·76, Lodhas with 7·45 and Gadariyas with 3·38. Kahars, Musalmans and Kayasths have each over 1 per cent., while Mallahs, Jats and Banias have each less than that small figure. The remaining castes hold between them in minutely fractional shares 10·46 per cent. of the whole. Fortunately for the cultivation of the district both Ahirs and Thakurs, as well as Brahmans, are frequently either too indolent or too proud to cultivate their own holdings, preferring to sub-let

them to the lower but more skilful and industrious Lodhas, Kachhis and Chamars. Nearly one-fourth of the holdings area was found to be sub-let at the recent settlement.

The incidence of rent is in inverse proportion to cultivating skill, an anomaly mainly due to the influence of social position. Thakurs are the most privileged, holding the best land at the lowest rents with a larger proportion of occupancy rights than any other caste. These advantages they have received by their birthright as members of what has always been the dominant race, by their relationship to the proprietors of the greater part of the soil, and by their notorious intractability. Ahirs, again, are either akin to the proprietary body or else by associating in large communities and in isolated hamlets generally succeed in defying the efforts of the *zamindars* to encroach on their possessions or enhance their rents. The social pre-eminence of the Brahmans has protected them to some extent, but they pay fairly high rents. The heaviest burdens are borne by the Kachhis, the most diligent and successful members of the cultivating body. They, however, are feeble folk, unused to resistance, and also able, by the very excellence of their husbandry, to make more out of their land, and so pay a higher rent for it. The fact, too, that they, unlike the higher castes, can utilize the labour of their women and children instead of hiring, enables them to work their holdings much more economically.

Rents. The rental system prevailing almost universally throughout the district is one of lump rents paid in cash on holdings of mixed soils. There are a few crop rents here and there, and grain rents (apart from mere *batai* on odd plots of inferior variable soils) flourish still in some villages in parganas Bewar and Kuraoli. But the whole grain-rented area amounts only to 4,271 acres or ·68 per cent. of the whole. It has diminished by more than one-half since the last settlement, when it formed 1·58 per cent. of the total area. In 1840, when the district was settled by Mr. Edmonstone, the general rent-rate was Rs. 3-9-10 an acre, including *sir* and *khudkasht* at nominal rents. In 1873 the average incidence was only Rs. 3·78, excluding the *sir* and *khudkasht*, and at the recent settlement the actual cash rates averaged Rs. 4·68 per acre, a rise in thirty years of 23·81 per

cent. or roughly 24 per cent. But an analysis of the figures will show that this is not the real index of the rise in rents. To get this the occupancy and non-occupancy areas must be taken separately, and it will be found that, while the rental incidence of the former has only risen from Rs. 3·84 to Rs. 4·52, or by 17·7 per cent., that of the latter has increased from Rs. 3·61 to Rs. 5·29 or by 46·5 per cent.

In some parts of the district the occupancy rents simply stagnated: thus in Alipur Patti they rose only by 3·41 per cent., in Kuraoli only by 3·99 per cent. and in Mainpuri by 5·44 per cent. The non-occupancy rents, on the other hand, have in parts of Barnahal risen by 131 per cent., in Bhongaon by 92 per cent., and by over 80 and 90 per cent., in Mainpuri and Karhal. These sharp rises are the natural result of the high prices which have ruled during the recent series of years of drought and famine, accentuated by the restricted area open to the tenants-at-will. Against them must be set off the very small increase in the Kali Nadi tract, in parts of which non-occupancy rents have actually fallen by 4·5 per cent. even from their level at last settlement. But the rise in prices which has sent up the competition rents of the tenants-at-will in so marked a way has left the greater part of the occupancy rents untouched. In several villages the rents were found at the recent settlement to be still the same as they were fifty or sixty years ago, and 38 per cent. of the occupancy rental consisted of rents unenhanced at the last settlement. Nearly 31 per cent. had been enhanced since 1873, but the bulk of it was enhanced immediately after the settlement, and so had remained stationary for thirty years. In over 9 per cent. of the occupancy area occupancy rights had been acquired shortly after the previous settlement, but the rents had not since been enhanced. In only 21·56 per cent., or a trifle over one-fifth of the whole, had the influence of the rise in prices and values of the last thirty years been felt. The rent paid for different classes of soil varies very greatly, ranging from Rs. 16-9-0 an acre for suburban land round Qasba Kuraoli to less than one rupee for the worst quality of unirrigated soil. The former figure is, however, exceptionally high and due to the fact that the land is all in the hands of

Kachhis, who cultivate it for vegetables and market-gardening generally. Ordinarily the best quality of *gauhan* is rented at between Rs. 11 and Rs. 12. The rates for the better qualities of soil exhibit a marked increase during the last sixty years. In 1840 the rate for first quality *gauhan* was only Rs. 4-2-0, and in 1873 it was Rs. 7-9-0. Very little concealment of rents was found at the settlement, but though the rental demands were in general correctly recorded, the rental collections as recorded showed an annual shortage of, on the average, 12·5 per cent., the records (*siyahas*) being, as a rule, very imperfectly written up and the figures defective and unreliable. The main cause of this lay in the large number of villages held by large proprietary communities, in which the *lambardar* is more often than not a mere figure-head, the various *pattidars* collecting for themselves, and the process often degenerating into a mere scramble for rents. With such numerous collecting agencies, mostly illiterate, no correct record of the amount collected is kept. Another potent cause is the widely prevailing habit of deliberately understating the collections in order to show outstanding, though really fictitious, arrears in the village papers as a means of keeping the tenants under control. Again, many *zamindars* are also their tenants' bankers, and the amounts collected are credited first against the loan and interest accounts.

Value of land.

The rise in the value of land during the last forty years has been very noteworthy. Taking the available figures for private sales, which are much more trustworthy as a criterion than those for public auctions, it appears that during the eighteen years between Mr. Edmonstone's settlement and the Mutiny, the average price per acre was Rs. 6-12-4, while between the Mutiny and 1870 the price had risen to Rs. 13-4-8 or almost double. At the present day the average price is from Rs. 31 to Rs. 32. Or, taking the number of years' purchase, it will be found that, while during the period 1840 to 1870 the average was 5·26 years, the corresponding figure for the years 1870 to 1900 is 17, and the actual figure increased from 3·4 years in 1840 to 19 years in 1900. This steady rise in values is not difficult to account for. Between 1840 and 1850 the district was in a condition of depression and change. The

breakdown of Mr. Edmonstone's settlement and the effect of the preceding bad seasons resulted in wholesale alienations of land by compulsory process, no less than one-eighth of the district being so transferred. Some landlords were unable to discharge their revenues, others looked upon a sale for arrears as a relief from their liabilities and a means of ultimately receiving back their estates unencumbered, as in many cases purchasers could not be found and Government was under the necessity of reinstating the original proprietors. Between 1850 and the Mutiny the harvests were abundant, and the revision of the settlement had greatly lightened the burden of the revenue payer. Forced alienations were comparatively rare and private sales and mortgages were not very numerous. After the Mutiny, however, a totally new condition of things came into being. Hitherto the speculating classes had only looked upon land as a form of security and had no ambition to become landed proprietors themselves. The money-lender who intruded into a Thakur or Ahir village to oust the original owners of the land would have needed a more than common degree of courage, and the adventure was not generally considered to be worth the risk. But the reign of law and order which has prevailed since 1859, together with the great security of landed property and the high profits to be derived from it, have brought about a new era. The banking classes, who before the Mutiny lent out their capital grudgingly and showed no desire to drive landlords to extremity, now compete with one another to accommodate the *zamindar* and encourage his extravagant habits, and by foreclosures and auctions in execution of decrees are steadily and persistently increasing their hold upon the land. In addition to the above causes it must not be forgotten that the Government share, taken as land revenue, of the assets or gross profits of the *zamindars* has been steadily diminished from 90 to under 50 per cent., and if the leniency now adopted in calculating the assets be considered the percentage is even less. The development of means of communication and of irrigation has of course also contributed to the steady rise in land values.

Condition of the people

The district is a poor one when compared with the districts of the Upper Duab and the people are backward and

unenterprising. Many of the big *zamindars* are absentees, living in other districts, and the great mass of the proprietary communities who own and with their fellow-castemen cultivate the bulk of the land are impecunious and living close upon the critical margin of subsistence. Bad seasons therefore tell upon them heavily. And they are not a thrifty class in the most prosperous times. The petty Thakur proprietors, owing to their expensive marriages and other caste customs and their large needs in general, live more or less habitually beyond their means, a fact which explains the large transfers of property which have taken place. Most of the proprietary communities are heavily embarrassed, and their ultimate extinction and deposition to the grade of tenants can hardly be averted and is only postponed by their constitution and the difficulty experienced by any outsider in making good a footing among them. This unfortunate position cannot be attributed to the pressure of the State demand. If he had no revenue to pay at all, the improvident Thakur or Ahir would be little, if at all, less indebted. What he has he spends, and he never lays by any provision for adverse seasons. Apart from the small proprietors, the condition of the people is good, and compares favourably with that of the districts further east.

The scarcity of labour and the high wages it commands clearly indicate the absence of any real poverty among the tenant and labouring classes, and the fact that 77 per cent. of the tenantry have rights of occupancy in their holdings should guarantee, with ordinary thrift, a reasonably high degree of well-being. Another indication of prosperity is to be found in the large number of masonry wells which have been built of recent years and are estimated to represent a capital outlay of at least six lakhs of rupees. But though the people are fairly comfortably off, they are content with a low standard, and the evidences of comfort are not obviously apparent. Among the tenantry houses of pukka brick or masonry are still comparatively rare and the majority are of mud. Very few, however, of the people are condemned to live in mere huts of wattle such as are so common among the indigent multitudes of the eastern districts.

CHAPTER IV.

ADMINISTRATION AND REVENUE.

A Magistrate and Collector holds charge of the district under the Commissioner of the Agra division. To assist him there is at headquarters a sanctioned staff consisting of four Deputy Collectors—three of them with first class powers and one with powers of the third class. At the tahsils there are five tahsildars, each exercising criminal powers of the third and revenue powers of the second class. There are also three honorary magistrates, exercising criminal powers of the third class—Kunwar Bhagwan Singh, who sits at Saman, K. Drigpal Singh at Uresar, and Lala Phulzari Lal at Karhal, with jurisdiction within the police circles of Kishni, Eka and Karhal, respectively. Offences against the Canal Act are dealt with by canal magistrates, who are not connected in any way with the district staff except as regards appeals, which are referred to the District Magistrate. The Sessions Judge also exercises civil jurisdiction as District Judge, and is assisted by a Subordinate Judge and two munsifs, one at Mainpuri and the other at Shikohabad. The Judge visits Etawah to hold sessions every other month, and that district is also within his civil jurisdiction. There are forty village munsifs' courts, created since 1903. The rest of the district staff consists of the Superintendent of Police, the Civil Surgeon and an Assistant Surgeon, a Sub-Deputy Opium Agent and one assistant, and a District Surveyor or Engineer. Mainpuri is the headquarters of the Executive Engineer of the Mainpuri division of the Lower Ganges Canal, who has an assistant at Gopalpur near Eka in the Mustafabad tahsil, where the head works of the Cawnpore canal are situated. District staff.

Mainpuri is at present divided into five tahsils, comprising eleven parganas. The latter subdivision is no longer of administrative importance, though it is still found in the land registers, but is often of historic interest, the names surviving from the Subdivisions.

days of Akbar and to be found recorded in the *Ain-i-Akbari.* The Shikohabad and Mustafabad tahsils each consist of one pargana from which they take their name. Mainpuri tahsil includes the three parganas of Mainpuri, Ghiror and Kuraoli. The Bhongaon tahsil has four parganas—Bhongaon, Alipur Patti, Bewar and Kishni-Nabiganj; and the Karhal tahsil consists of the Karhal and Barnahal parganas. As at present constituted, the district is reasonably compact, and there appears to be no reason for further change, except that the Bhongaon tahsil is above the average in area and Karhal considerably below it.

Village munsifs.

This useful body of gentlemen consists of the more influential and well-to-do landed proprietors, who perform their duties conscientiously and without remuneration. In 1908 there were forty-six circles, of which six were vacant, consisting each of from one to nine villages in proximity to the munsif's residence. The popularity of these courts may be inferred from the fact that no less than 1,906 suits were disposed of during 1908, excluding suits disposed of without formal entry in the registers. Of the registered suits only 5 per cent. were tried out, the greater portion being settled in other ways. Only 34 cases were transferred on the applications of defendants to the regular courts. The village munsif is a great success in this district—thanks to the care taken in selecting a popular man of the right stamp and standing—and it is an immense convenience to the rural population to have a means of recovering petty debts, so much so that the rate of interest on loans so recoverable shows a tendency to decline. The village munsif is mainly an arbitrator and not a judge.

Opium department.

The local head of the Opium department is the Sub-Deputy Agent of Mainpuri, with subdivisions at Bhongaon and Mainpuri within the district, and also at Etah, under Assistant Opium Agents. The decline in poppy cultivation has been commented on in Chapter II, and is attributed to the increase in prices obtainable for other agricultural produce. The decline is also connected with the Government policy of contracting the area to meet the diminished exports to China, and in pursuance thereof one subdivision at Shikohabad has already been abolished. In the four years ending in 1907 nearly 10 lakhs of rupees were distributed on an annual average by the department as advances

to cultivators, but in 1907-8 only half that sum was found necessary. Weighments are no longer made at Shikohabad, the greater bulk of them being made at headquarters.

Formation of the district.

The existing shape and area of the district were not reached without a great deal of alteration continued through many years. Taken over in 1801, Mainpuri became the headquarters of the great district of Etawah, parganas Bewar and Kuraoli coming by cession from the Farrukhabad Nawab and the remainder of the district from the Oudh Nawab. A military station was established at Shikohabad and a Joint Magistrate was stationed at Etawah. In 1803 the revenue jurisdiction of the entire district was entrusted to a Collector residing at Mainpuri, who had ten tahsils under him—Shikohabad or Rapri, including parganas Shikohabad, Mustafabad and Ghiror; Hazur tahsil, including Bhongaon, Sauj, Kishni and *taluqa* Manchhana; Sakit, including Sonhar, Sakit, Sirhpura, Sahawar-Karsana and Amanpur; Kasganj, including Soron and Kasganj; Etawah, comprising Bibamau, Auraiya, Sandaus, Barhpura and Talgram. Soon after Sauj was transferred to Farrukhabad, and lesser areas were gradually divided off and placed under separate sub-collectors. In 1817 Kuraoli was received from Farrukhabad. In 1824 the old pargana of Rapri was dismembered and divided into *Kismat Awwal*, subsequently known as pargana Shikohabad, and *Kismat Duyam*, afterwards called parganas Mustafabad and Ghiror. To the south of Rapri was pargana Haveli Etawah, from which a great part of pargana Bibamau, made up of *tappas* Dehli and Jakhan, was formed. Bibamau was again broken up and distributed between Barnahal, Etawah and Shikohabad; and Karhal, also a *tappa* of Etawah, was constituted a separate pargana. Mainpuri belonged to Manchhana, which was itself formed out of Bhongaon. Kishni-Nabiganj also formed part of the same pargana. In 1837 the Mainpuri jurisdiction was restricted to Sahawar-Karsana, Etah-Sakit, Sirhpura, Kuraoli, Shikohabad, Mustafabad, Ghiror, Sauj, Karhal, Kishni-Nabiganj, Bhongaon, Alipur Patti and Manchhana. Bewar was received from Farrukhabad in 1840. On the formation of the Etah district in 1845, the parganas of Sahawar-Karsana, Etah-Sakit and Sirhpura were handed over to it, and since that period the

district has altered little. In 1850-51 pargana Bhongaon and *taluqa* Manchhana were united under the name Bhongaon-Manchhana, and in 1861 pargana Sauj was broken up and divided between Karhal and Mainpuri. Later changes have for the most part been trifling, between pargana and pargana within the district.

Fiscal history.

On the first cession of the tract which now constitutes the Mainpuri district temporary arrangements, based on the accounts of the Subahdar, Almas Ali Khan, were made for the collection of the current revenue. In the following year, 1210 *Fasli* (1802-3 A.D.), the first triennial settlement under Regulation XXV of 1803 was effected. The second triennial settlement was made in 1805-6, expired in 1807-8, and was followed by the quadrennial settlement, which terminated in 1811-12. These three settlements comprise what is commonly known as the decennial period. It had been the intention of the Government, declared in the original proclamation to the *zamindars* of the ceded provinces, to conclude a settlement in perpetuity, at the end of the decennial period, of those lands which should then be in a sufficiently advanced stage of development. However, before the expiry of the second triennial settlement it was resolved to anticipate the period originally fixed upon for a permanent settlement, and it was determined that the assessments current in the last year of the period should remain fixed for ever, contingent upon the sanction of the Board of Directors. The settlement for the quadrennial period was thus made with a view to permanency, and a special commission, consisting of Messrs. Colebrooke and Deane, was appointed to superintend it. About the middle of the last year of the period, however, orders arrived from the Court of Directors negativing the proposal to make the assessment of 1811-12 permanent, and requiring the making of a fresh settlement for a term not exceeding five years. But the Government, whose ambition ever since the cession had been to confer on the ceded provinces the benefits which Lord Cornwallis' permanent settlement was supposed to have conferred on Bengal, instead of carrying out the instructions of the Board in their integrity, reverted to the terms laid down in 1803. The indispensable condition precedent to a settlement in perpetuity was a sufficiently advanced state of cultivation in the

land to be settled. The Board of Commissioners proceeded accordingly, while making a general settlement of the ceded provinces for the five years 1220 to 1224 *Fasli,* to make such enquiries regarding the agricultural development of estates as should enable the Government to determine where a settlement in perpetuity should be granted. These enquiries yielded a two-fold result. They showed first that the country was, where statistics were available at all, in a backward state ; and secondly, that our knowledge of its resources was far too slender to be relied upon. The Court of Directors decided, on receipt of the district reports, that, for the present at any rate, the project of a permanent settlement could no longer be entertained. In 1816 a regulation was enacted continuing the *jamas* current in 1224 *Fasli* (1816-17) for five years longer with a view to the collection of agricultural statistics to serve as a basis for future action. In the meantime there arose a discussion regarding the objects to be attained in making a settlement of the land revenue, and the rules by which the Government demand should be regulated. The first result of this discussion was the enactment of the famous Regulation VII of 1822, by which the existing assessments were maintained until a new settlement could be made on the principles embodied in the regulation itself. Only a few scattered villages in Mainpuri were settled under Regulation VII of 1822. It was found that the procedure involved was far too cumbersome, and that the completion of such a settlement would be the work of a generation, if not more. To remedy this, Regulation IX of 1833 was passed, having as its object the abridgment of this cumbrous procedure, and it was under this regulation that in 1839-40 the settlement of Mainpuri was completed by Mr. (afterwards Sir George) Edmonstone. There were thus only three general assessments of the district prior to the regular settlement made by Mr. Edmonstone. These were (1) the first triennial, 1210 to 1212 *Fasli* ; (2) the first quadrennial, 1216 to 1219 *Fasli* ; (3) the first quinquennial, 1220 to 1224 *Fasli.* All the others were merely extensions of these except in cases where modifications were rendered necessary by purely local causes.

The first triennial settlement, 1802-03 to 1804-05.

Of the first triennial settlement we possess scarcely any record at all. It was very hurriedly conducted, and the

information at the command of the assessing officers was necessarily most imperfect. This information appears to have consisted of (1) the accounts delivered by Almas Ali Khan at the cession, (2) the schedules of *malguzari* receipts of the preceding year furnished by *chaudharis, qanungos* and *taluqdars*; and (3) the statements of *kham* proceeds received from those *amins* who had been deputed by the Collector in 1209 *Fasli* to collect statistics.

The main end would seem to have been to obtain as much of the gross produce of an estate as possible, compatible with the reservation to proprietors of such a quota as would not drive them to refuse engagements. The assessments were fixed at a considerable increase on the *jama* formerly realized by the Nawab Wazir's Government, partly, as the Collector admitted, through higher offers being made, and partly on the summary enquiries which had been instituted into the capabilities of estates. The total revenue assessed over the whole district as now constituted amounted to ten lakhs of rupees, a sum which it was found impossible to collect in full owing to the depression and anarchy which prevailed consequent on a severe famine on the one hand and the depredations of the Marathas on the other. Heavy and general remissions were thus necessitated during this period. Only in the large *taluqas* were the assessments moderate.

The second triennial settlement was merely a continuation of the first settlement at the same *jama* in all cases where the *malguzars*, whether proprietors or farmers, had kept their engagements and were willing to renew them. No enquiries into rights of ownership were entertained by the Collector, who simply allowed the fulfilment of the former engagement to confer on the men in possession the privilege of re-entry for three additional years. In those instances where refusals to renew engagements on the old terms occurred, the estates not engaged for were advertised, and offers were invited, the highest offer being generally accepted, with preference to the hereditary *zamindars* in the event of their coming forward. The total annual demand during this settlement averaged very close on ten lakhs, and although heavy balances did occur, still the collection of the

revenue seems not to have been attended with that insuperable difficulty which characterized the first four years of our rule.

The first quadrennial settlement was conducted by Messrs. Valpy and Batson, the former reporting on the western parganas at the end of 1807 and beginning of 1808, the latter completing the eastern parganas at the end of 1808. Mr. Valpy himself estimated the assets upon which the Government demand was based, disregarding the recorded rentals as untrustworthy. Of these estimated assets he took 90 per cent. as revenue, leaving to the *zamindar* "a residue of 10 per cent. to defray expenses of cultivation and village expenses and for his own support from the produce of the soil." "I own," he wrote with much truth, "that I consider this residue a base and sorry pittance, but a larger could not have been granted without causing a considerable defalcation of the revenues of the former settlement even in these parganas, and an infinitely larger one in others of this district, and it is to be inferred from the tenor of the regulation for the lower provinces that Government considered that quota sufficient in Bengal and Behar." He further pointed out that the revenue thus assessed could only be comfortably realized in favourable years; and that it was too severe to stand the pressure of any failure of crops, unless liberal remissions were promptly made. Mr. Batson appears to have assessed on the average of the estimates of the cultivated area and of the average produce of the three years of the expired settlement obtained from (1) the tahsildar and qanungo, (2) the zamindars and (3) the patwaris. "I added," he reported to the Board, "the three estimates of any one estate together, and having calculated the amount, I divided the gross produce by three, which gave the average of the three *dowls*, which average I have in many cases stated as the gross, on which I have marked the account settlement, being unable to obtain a better or more correct gross from the clue of contradictions and falsehoods which I attempted to unravel to no purpose, and finding myself baffled after tedious investigations, and involved in a maze of doubt, I from necessity had recourse to the average of the *dowls* as the only fair alternative which I could have recourse to in such cases, when I could not succeed by taking the average of any adjoining estate as a standard." Mr. Batson

The first quadrennial settlement 1808-9 to 1811-12.

believed that his estimates were in general 30 to 40 per cent. under the "true resources," and proposed that if the board considered his assessments too low, progressive *jamas* should be imposed. Like Mr. Valpy, he assessed the *jama* at 90 per cent. of the assets, ascertained by the method described. The new assessment was Rs. 1,10,000 in excess of that which preceded it, the enhancement falling principally on parganas Shikohabad, Mustafabad, Ghiror and *taluqa* Muhammadpur Labhaua. The settlement did not work well. Before its close the *zamindars* had fallen into heavy arrears, which they were either unable or unwilling to pay; 136 estates, amounting to one-eighth of the area of the whole district, had passed into the hands of the Collector, who held them under direct management, generally at a loss, while the pargana officials were thoroughly corrupt, often placing themselves in opposition to the Collector and supporting the *zamindars* in their recusancy.

The quinquennial settlement, 1812-13 to 1816-17.

The quinquennial settlement of the district was made jointly by Messrs. Batson and Dawes under Regulation IX of 1812, in which it is laid down that the proportion of assets to be relinquished to proprietors should be one-tenth on the *jama* exclusive of cost of collection or, in other words, one-eleventh of the net assets. The mode of estimating the gross assets was not very different from that employed in the preceding settlement, but the enquiries were far more detailed and were made village by village. The assessing officers were able to bring much more local knowledge and experience to their aid than before, and in framing their revised assessments profited by the fiscal history of each village, which they were at pains to record for each separately in a vernacular proceeding. These proceedings were forwarded to the Board, who reviewed them minutely and gave orders themselves in every case, thus constituting themselves virtually the assessing officers. A sifting investigation of proprietary rights was also carried out, the Board, as in the assessments, permitting no record of ownership to be made without their sanction. It was from this period apparently that the record of rights became a part of the settlement operations, which had previously been confined merely to assessment. This settlement was sanctioned by the Board in 1814. The result was, in round numbers,

a total revenue of twelve lakhs of rupees, an addition of Rs. 86,000 to the previous Government demand. The Board's records show that in the first year of this settlement both *taluqdars* and *zamindars* combined to oppose every obstacle to the success of the new assessments, both by throwing large tracts out of cultivation and by using their influence to frustrate realization of the revenue. Matters came to a head in 1815 in the western parganas of Shikohabad (including Mustafabad) and Dehli Jakhan and in the *taluqa* of Muhammadpur Labhaua: and the defalcations were so large that Mr. Valpy, who already had some experience of the people, was placed in exclusive charge of these parganas. From the statement of outstanding balances handed over to him by the Collector, Mr. Dawes, it appears that arrears up to the end of the preceding year had accumulated to the amount of nearly a lakh; that for the current year about three-quarters of a lakh due on the *kharif* was yet unrealized, in addition to nearly two and a half lakhs still to be collected for the *rabi*. These balances he attributes to "the refractory disposition of some of the principal zamindars, to the neglect of cultivation by others and to the mismanagement of Tahsildar Chiranji Lal, who has been dismissed." He is also "apprehensive that the utmost vigilance will not be sufficient to accomplish the realization of the whole of the *jama*." Scarcely had the pargana changed hands when the crisis occurred in the case of *taluqa* Muhammadpur-Labhaua. The *taluqdar*, Thakur Bhagwant Singh, after regularly defaulting with ample means to pay, had gone as far as to disregard entirely any demand for payment of his revenue or summons to appear before the Collector. It was therefore found necessary to bring his whole estate to public auction; and in April 1815 his enormous property, consisting of 107 villages in Shikohabad, Ghiror and Sakit, was put up for sale and purchased by Government for Rs. 10,950. It was resettled the following year at an increase of Rs. 11,484 with the *zamindars* as farmers, and on this tenure they continued to hold it till 1839, when they received proprietary rights on condition of their liquidating the balances which had occurred during the possession of Bhagwant Singh. Considerable reductions of revenue had also to be made, with a re-settlement in a large number of villages in Shikohabad, Mustafabad

and Dehli Jakhan. These revisions prove that the quinquennial settlement, in the west of the district, at any rate, was practically a failure, though there is nothing to show that elsewhere any revisions were necessitated. This settlement as revised remained in force till 1839, except in the few villages which, as already stated, were settled under the provisions of Regulation VII of 1822. The only record of the working of the settlement is contained in the remarks of subsequent settlement officers. From these it would appear that the revenue was found to be excessive only in the case of individual estates, and the work really attempted at the next revision in 1839 was the equalization of the demand, by lowering it in over-assessed estates and taking a small increase in those villages where the assessment had been inadequate.

Mr. Edmonstone's settlement, 1839-40.

The first regular settlement of the district, made under Regulation IX of 1833, was Mr. Edmonstone's in 1839-40, and gave a total revenue of Rs. 12,45,000, an increase of Rs. 43,000 on its predecessor. Notwithstanding this very moderate increase, however, Mr. Edmonstone's assessments broke down more or less over the whole district, and extensive reductions were necessitated almost immediately. This sudden and general collapse cannot possibly be attributed to the slight advance in revenue resulting from the new settlement, but to the after-effects of the great famine of 1837-8, which were far more lasting and disastrous than had been imagined. This famine almost depopulated the backward tracts, and even in the most favoured parts of the district its effect was felt for years. Mr. Edmonstone's great mistake, judged by the after event, arose from a far too sanguine anticipation of the elasticity of the district. The exceptionally favourable rains of the two years during which he was engaged in assessment gave to the country an appearance of recovery which it had not really attained, and led him to over-estimate its resources. A large proportion of the land which had been thrown out of cultivation by the famine, had, on account of the seasonable rains of 1839-40, been again brought under the plough. Not only did he assess these lands, but he also called upon the unploughed waste to pay its quota of revenue. His anticipations were not realized. Two or three

seasons of light and untimely rains followed; the cultivation, instead of spreading, declined, the condition of the tenantry deteriorated, and in consequence many of the *zamindars* found themselves unable to meet the Government demand. The debts which they were obliged to contract during the famine years still hung over them, the money lenders began to press for payment and refused further advances, and the result was a very general state of impecuniosity and absence of capital, which culminated in 1844, when a revision of Mr. Edmonstone's assessments was sanctioned by Government.

Revision of Mr. Edmonstone's assessment.

This revision, which was effected by the Collectors of the district, Messrs. Unwin, Dick and Cocks, under the orders of the Commissioner, resulted in a reduction of the *jama* from Rs. 12,45,000 in 1840 to Rs. 10,45,000 in 1845-6, rising gradually to Rs. 11,40,000 in 1850-1. These measures restored the district to prosperity. In 1850-1 the area under the plough was 9 per cent. in excess of the cultivated areas of 1836-7, the year preceding the famine, and the Government revenue was realized without a single farm or sale. "Thus, then, in the year when the revised assessments reached their maximum, we find the district in a higher state of prosperity, its administration more easy, its public revenues more punctually paid, than at any period since the cession in 1801." Neither the anarchy consequent on the Mutiny of 1857-8 nor the famine of 1860 appears to have inflicted other than a temporary check on the advance of the district to recovery. The spread of the *baisuri* weed in 23 villages in Mustafabad and Shikohabad necessitated a reduction of Rs. 5,351 in the Government *jama*, which, together with reductions on account of the appropriation of land for the Etawah and Cawnpore branches of the Ganges Canal and their distributaries and for roads and other public projects, brought the *jama* of 1850-1 from Rs. 11,40,000 down to Rs. 11,21,289, at which amount it stood when it was succeeded by the revised assessment made by Messrs. McConaghey and Smeaton.

Mr. McConaghey's settlement, 1870—1873.

The effect of Mr. McConaghey's revision was to raise the Government demand to Rs. 12,76,430, an increase of Rs. 1,55,141, or 13·84 per cent., though only Rs. 31,430, or 2½ per cent., in excess of the burden which Mr. Edmonstone had thought the district

capable of bearing thirty years before, when canal irrigation was unknown. The increase was justified on the grounds that (1) cultivation had increased by 17½ per cent. since 1836-7 and by 11¼ per cent. since 1850-1; (2) irrigation had increased in the same proportion; (3) population had advanced 24 per cent. since 1850; and (4) harvest prices had risen 45 per cent. since the Mutiny. The assessment was made after a new and careful survey carried out, under supervision, by the patwaris and amins, and the revenue represented rather less than half the estimated rental assets of the district. There was, however, a considerable difference in the methods employed in the five parganas, Kuraoli, Mainpuri, Ghiror, Alipur Patti and Bewar, that were first assessed, and in the six parganas forming the remainder of the district, with the result that the enhancement of rents in connection with settlement operations amounted to 27 per cent. in the first set of parganas and only 7 per cent. in the second, and that the revenue assessed was 45·5 per cent., of the corrected rental as it stood after enhancement in the first set, but 57·6 per cent. of the second. And as the corrected rent-roll after enhancement was only Rs. 23,19,377, even after allowing for concealments, the assets cannot be taken to have been more than 24 lakhs. Mr. McConaghey's valuation of Rs. 26,30,930 would therefore appear to have been somewhat excessive and his *jama* to have represented a higher percentage of the rental assets than he claimed for it. The settlement, however, worked well on the whole, and the Government, in a review of it made some seven or eight years later, in 1880, while concluding that no interference with the assets was necessary, pronounced the new revenue lenient in the five parganas first assessed, but not too lenient, except, perhaps, in Ghiror, and fully adequate in the remaining and greater portion of the district, but not too high, with the possible exception of the *bhur* portion of pargana Bhongaon.

Revision in 1891-2.

Reasonably moderate as the assessment was, a combination of causes which could not have been foreseen, and for which it was in no way responsible, rendered its revision necessary in 1891 in four out of the five tahsils of the district, and resulted in an aggregate reduction of Rs. 30,000, or 2 per cent. of the whole demand. These causes were (1) the floods in the Kali nadi;

(2) deterioration due to wet seasons and the spread of *kans* grass; (3) damage from the super-saturation and water-logging due to the Bhognipur Branch Canal.

Kali Nadi floods.

As early as 1877 it was found necessary to reduce by Rs. 6,850 the *jama* of 70 villages in pargana Kuraoli, Alipur Patti, Bewar, Bhongaon and Kishni, which lay in the valley of the Kali Nadi and suffered severely from flooding after 1873. This reduction was made for five years only, but at the revision in 1881 only Rs. 1,685 of the reduction were recovered and a further sum of Rs. 7,780 had to be reduced in 171 villages in the five northern parganas. In 1885 these villages were swept by the terrible flood from the Nadrai aqueduct and suffered very severely. Though the full magnitude of the disaster was not appreciated at the time, suspensions of revenue and advances of money only being given, yet in 1889 remissions of revenue had to be granted in eighteen villages, and in 1890 in nine more. A regular revision of settlement was then ordered.

Kans.

The wet season also caused a very serious spread of the noxious *kans* grass in the lighter soils of Bhongaon and Mainpuri, and the deterioration arising from this was so grave that remissions of revenue amounting to Rs. 6,784 were necessitated in nineteen villages, and eventually this tract also had to be included in the sphere of the revision of 1891.

Effect of the Bhognipur canal.

When the Bhognipur branch canal was first opened the interference with the natural drainage which it involved, and the rise in the water level of the surrounding country, were so great that not only was the productivity of the soil in its neighbourhood much injured, but wells fell in and houses collapsed. A special settlement officer was accordingly deputed in 1891 to examine into and revise the settlement in all the affected areas of the district. In 1891 the circumstances of 152 villages were enquired into and relief was given in 122 *mahals*. Rs. 13,595 of land revenue were reduced, and Rs. 17,357 of arrears of revenue were remitted, while Rs. 2,350 were awarded as compensation for injury to houses. In 1892 the operations were continued and resulted in a reduction of Rs. 6,303 of land revenue, in remission of Rs. 6,422 of arrears, and the payment of Rs. 4,370 as compensation to house owners.

Recent settlement 1902 to 1906.

A forecast made shortly before the falling in of the revenue engagements taken at the last settlement indicated a probable increment to the State demand of some 6 per cent. A revision of assessment was therefore financially desirable. Besides this the incidence of assessment throughout the district required to be equalized, and the temporary reductions to be reconsidered. But of still greater importance than all these was the need for re-adjusting the rents of the huge body of protected tenants, who held no less than 64 per cent. of the total cultivation of the district. While the competitive rents of tenants-at-will had advanced in timely correspondence with the rise in prices and in the value of land, the protected rents had remained stationary, 78 per cent. of them being unchanged since the last settlement and some 38 per cent. from a very much older period. There was no reason why this stagnation should be perpetuated and the landholder and the State should not share in profits from the enhanced value of land, of which an unfair proportion was being monopolized by the protected tenant. A new settlement was therefore ordered, and in November 1902 Mr. W. J. E. Lupton, I.C.S., was placed in charge of it.

Survey.

The re-assessment was preceded by and based on a complete new survey of the whole district and of each village, and a revision of all the village records. A traverse survey of the whole district was made during the three seasons 1898 to 1901, and skeleton maps of each village were prepared on the scale of 16 inches to the mile. On receipt of these outline maps the survey officers proceeded, with the aid of the village patwaris, whom they had been training in survey for the purpose, to fill in on the maps each field, plot, village site, well, grove and so forth, giving to each a number; and in accordance with the new numbering a new record of rights was drawn up, based on the old but prepared on the spot under the supervision of the survey officers and in presence of the parties interested, both landholders and tenants. Actual possession was the basis of the new record, and all disputed entries were noted in a dispute list for subsequent adjudication, and corresponding lists of old and new numbers were prepared to aid in identification. On completion of the field work, which lasted from October to May each season, the

patwaris came into headquarters and, among other work, extracted the area of each newly numbered field in acres and decimals. These were then entered in the *khasra* and the *khatauni* slips, and the area obtained by summation of fields of each village was checked against that supplied by the Traverse Survey. The detailed survey and record writing in the field were systematically checked by the Survey officers and supervisor kanungos of the district. This work, which began in November 1899, was completed in October 1903 at a total cost of Rs. 1,52,895.

Attestation.

The attestation was carried on from November 1901 to March 1904. On receipt of the rough records from the survey office the *khatauni* and *khewat* slips were distributed through the patwaris to each tenant and *zamindar* affected, and about a fortnight later, when the contents of the slips had been read and digested, both tenant and *zamindar* appeared before a gazetted officer, encamped for this purpose, either in their village or in its immediate neighbourhood. If the parties agreed as to the entries in a slip and no objection was raised by any one else, it was formally attested by the officer as admitted correct. Disputed cases were either decided then and there in the presence of the assembled villagers or later on by trial. At the same time the *dastur dehi* or memorandum of village customs was drawn up. Attestation over, the attested slips were sent back to the headquarters office, there to form the basis of the new Settlement records, the various entries needed for the new *khasra*, *khatauni* and *khewat* being abstracted from them.

Soil classification.

Concurrently with the attestation work, the officers were employed in supervising the preliminary soil classification and in checking on the spot the list of groves and wells. The soil distinctions used followed closely those of the last settlement, but with some modifications, and they have now the merit of employing terms and representing differences recognized by the people themselves. The soil classes having been decided on by the settlement officer, the soils in each village were roughly marked off on the map by kanungos and amins trained for this purpose by him and were checked by the deputy collectors. In due course they were examined personally by the settlement officer on the spot, and corrected where necessary.

The soil demarcation thus finally fixed represented the idea of the settlement officer himself guided by the opinions of the villagers, which were freely invited, and by ensuring the systematic inspection of every portion of the village, gave great confidence in the subsequent differentiation and assessing. The prevailing rent rates were at the same time continuously ascertained and noted.

Assessment Circles.

Every village thus came under the close personal inspection of the assessing officer, in general and in detail, and its characteristics, quality and capability were carefully noted. From the impressions thus formed, backed by a careful examination of their statistics, past and present, and of their fiscal history, the villages of each tract were differentiated and grouped with similar villages into assessment circles. The actual circles formed at the present assessment differed in no noteworthy respects from those adopted by Mr. McConaghey, the natural soil divisions of the district affording a ready and sound basis for differentiation. Thus the villages of the central loam tract, though physically fairly uniform, were, as a matter of convenience, and to avoid all danger of over-assessing in the less favoured, grouped into two circles, the first comprising the best villages with perfect irrigation or a larger portion of the better soils and the better cultivating castes, and generally with a higher revenue-bearing capacity, and the second containing the remainder of the villages. In the northern *bhur* tract, again, the presence in some villages of canal irrigation with its attraction for population, its incentive to closer and more lucrative cultivation and generally the great stability derived from its protection, necessitated a similar differentiation of these villages from those still outside the canal area or only partially within its influence. The same considerations applied to the southern mixed tract, owing to the new Bhognipur canal, which now runs through tahsil Shikohabad. The villages on the Jamna ravines, owing to the unique characteristics of this tract, naturally formed a separate circle of their own. And the villages along the Kali Nadi, which had for the most part suffered severe depreciation during the last settlement, were, chiefly for this reason, formed into a separate circle.

The rates.

The rates quoted by villagers nearly always represented the latest competition rents for specific plots in any one tract (*har*).

But such rents were, in the first place, based on a recent rapid rise in prices during a series of abnormally dry seasons; and secondly, even if they could have been regarded as expressing stable rental values, they would have given soil rates much too high for assessment in the circumstances of the district. The real problem of the assessment was the treatment of the large body of old and inadequate protected rents, which could not, however, be abruptly enhanced beyond a certain level without risk of danger. The *sir* and *khudkasht* (land cultivated by proprietors) amounted to only 12 per cent. of the whole, and was practically all in the hands of poor proprietary communities, mainly Thakurs and Ahirs. The rent-free and grain-rented areas also, the first being unremunerative to the revenue payers and the second comprising for the most part very variable and most inferior soils in which cultivation is spasmodic only, similarly needed easy and safe treatment. Of the areas held by tenants-at-will, comprising only 17 to 18 per cent. of the whole, the rents were found to remain in most cases only partially collected. There were left only some 13 to 14 per cent. of the whole in the shape of the later occupancy rents, which could be taken as stable and not too high, but at the same time as adequate in the circumstances of the district. These later occupancy rents were accordingly taken as a rough standard of fairness, the actual assessment rates being ultimately extracted from the rents of a number of representative normal and adequate occupancy holdings. Besides these, the quoted rates ascertained from villagers, though not used as a basis for assessment, were of great importance as revealing the existing proportional capacities of the several soils. These proportions, being thus established, were expressed in definite ratios by reference to a selected soil, and these ratios were then applied to the almost universally prevailing lump rents of the representative holdings and the lump rents thus split up into their underlying soil values. From the latter, tabulated village by village and circle by circle, the standard assessment rates were deduced, representing in the final result for the district in general the soil values of the actual rents being paid by occupancy tenants who had in the record year held their holdings for at least twenty years, but not at the last settlement.

The next effect of these rates was to raise the older protected rents for the purpose of calculating the assets approximately up to the level of the new occupancy rents.

Results of the assessment.

With these rents as a guide for comparison and valuation, the actual recorded non-occupancy rental of the year of record was reduced by Rs. 46,175, or 7·5 per cent., to Rs. 5,78,780. On the other hand, the total occupancy rental, including the small expro-prietary amount, was raised from Rs. 17,93,924 to Rs. 19,47,013, that is by Rs. 1,53,089, or roughly 9 per cent. But of a sum of Rs. 40,061, subsequently deducted from the assets as compensation for improvements, Rs. 19,928 represented the new wells of tenants; and this amount being deducted in detail from the rental enhancements decreed on individual holdings by the rent courts, the total real occupancy enhancement was thus Rs. 1,33,161, or 7·4 per cent. only. The assumption area—that for which no cash rents are paid, such as *khudkasht* &c.—was actually valued at Rs. 3,70,858, but Rs. 47,372 of this were remitted as allowances to numerous and poor proprietary communities on their lands actually self-cultivated, thus leaving a net assessed valuation of only Rs. 3,23,486. The grain-rented and rent-free areas, which are included in the assumption area, were moderately valued also, the first at Rs. 10,272 as compared with its valuation of Rs. 12,636 given by the standard rates; and the rent-free at Rs. 1,04,811 as compared with Rs. 1,26,686. The total assets or annual value thus obtained were then adjusted by a lump deduction of a further sum, *viz.* Rs. 90,515, for unstable or excess areas, which were set aside from assessment as a further margin for fluctuations. An addition of Rs. 740 for short cultivation and small *mahals* assessed on average assets, and of Rs. 1,288 for assessable *sayar* profits (income of grass land, &c.) (out of a total recorded income of Rs. 27,288), and a deduction of the remainder of the Rs. 40,061, already referred to, for *zamindars'* improvements, then brought the net assets of the district to Rs. 28,35,819, or, excluding the figures for the four revenue-free villages, to Rs. 28,31,709. The assessments sanctioned aggregated Rs. 13,57,364, an all-round percentage of 47·93 of these latter assets; this aggregate revenue, however, not being reached till after ten years, but progressive from an initial revenue of Rs. 13,53,069. The expiring

demand (revenue plus the owners' rate or canal dues) of the year of record being Rs. 12,69,923, the new aggregate revenue was thus an increase of Rs. 87,441, or 6·89 per cent., but of Rs. 56,527, or 4 per cent. only, on the initial revenue of Rs. 12,76,430 declared at the previous settlement. On the actual cultivated area of the record year the new revenue thus fell at Rs. 2·30 per acre. The re-adjusting effect of the re-assessment is shown by the fact that, while in 1,847 estates out of a total of 2,600 in the district the new revenue exceeded the expiring demand, on the other hand, in 235 estates that demand was retained unchanged, and in 518 estates it was actually reduced. Of the increase in the demand a very large portion was directly due to the increased values conferred by the new canals or new extensions of the older systems, the rest being due to the natural rise of rents and values consequent on a marked rise in prices and population. Although, as explained, the circumstances of the district compelled in the assessments a large interference with the prevailing low rents of the protected tenants, yet, briefly put, the distinguishing feature of the recent re-assessment was that it was based on the actual assets and, not like the previous settlement, on a valuation, that is, an estimate of what the value of the land ought to be. The assessment rates of the recent revision did not pretend to express actually prevailing rental values, but represented primarily the rates of rents twenty years before. At the previous settlement, on the other hand, the assessment rates admittedly represented the prevailing rates at the time, that is, the rents which were being actually paid by fair representative holdings, and which could, on purely economic grounds, be imposed on all similar lands at the time. But undoubtedly such rates were in general much above, and in detail often very considerably above, the ordinary level of the rents being paid by the very large body of the protected tenants whose rents are not free to respond to merely economic factors. And these rates, besides tending to impose on the protected area a valuation which, however fair as compared with present values, gave an abrupt enhancement often too severe to be borne all at once, were also inclined to take into account, however unconsciously, a mere prospective rise in values—a factor which not merely discounted future improvement

but also tended to make the initial demand very full, if not severe, upon the actual assets of the moment.

Police.

The police force is under the control of the Superintendent of Police, subordinate to whom are the deputy superintendent of police, the reserve inspector, the prosecuting inspector, and two circle inspectors. The regular civil police force consists of 25 sub-inspectors, 15 head constables and 330 constables posted at the various stations, and 7 sub-inspectors, 12 head constables and 17 constables in the reserve. The armed police comprise 1 sub-inspector, 20 head constables and 127 constables, all of whom are kept at headquarters or at tahsils. In addition to these there are 3 head constables and 32 constables employed in Mainpuri city for watch and ward, 47 town chaukidars in the Act XX towns, and 21 provincial chaukidars in the notified areas of Shikohabad town and Mainpuri civil station. The roads are patrolled by 104 road chaukidars, and watch and ward is kept in the villages by 1,759 village watchmen, an average of one to every 450 of the population.

Police stations.

The district is divided up into 12 police circles. The circle boundaries bear no relation to the fiscal subdivisions, being conterminous with neither the parganas nor the tahsils except in tahsil Mustafabad. The police stations are situated at Mainpuri, Ghiror and Kuraoli in the Mainpuri tahsil; at Bhongaon, Bewar and Kishni in Bhongaon; at Kurra and Karhal in the Karhal tahsil; at Shikohabad and Sirsaganj in the Shikohabad tahsil; and at Mustafabad and Eka in the Mustafabad tahsil. The population of each circle will be found in the appendix. The average number of enquiries into cognizable cases made yearly at each station is 95. These circles have recently been redistributed, a new one being created at Mustafabad, while four were abolished at Barnahal, Auncha, Pharha and Jasrana. The figures in the appendix are those of the 1901 census for the old circles. There are police outposts at Pharha, Auncha, Barnahal (to be transferred to Narangi Bah) and Punchha, the two last being on the Jamna.

Crime.

The statistics given in the appendix will throw some light on the amount and the nature of the crime prevalent in the district, and will be found to present few peculiar features.

From time to time outbreaks of dacoity, especially in years of scarcity like 1897, call for energetic action on the part of the local authorities. Not infrequently these are the work of armed gangs of professional dacoits who make a carefully planned and organized attack on the house of some wealthy bania or zamindar. Such gangs consist, as a rule, of local bad characters, but will sometimes recruit assistants from neighbouring districts and the Gwalior state. Sometimes a gang of this sort will make a rapid raid through the district, committing several dacoities in succession, the members of the gang dispersing to their houses if they elude the vigilance of the police. Only rarely do the inhabitants of the villages where the dacoities are committed venture to make any combined attempt at self-defence. The criminal tribe of Haburahs, and those almost equally lawless wanderers, the Kanjars, have given a good deal of trouble in the past in the matter of dacoities and robberies on the roads. These crimes of violence are a comparatively recent development in the case of the Haburahs, whose tendencies were formerly all in the direction of the less ostentatious forms of larceny and theft. Organized action in this and the surrounding districts has for the time being put a stop to this nuisance. The ancestral home of the Haburahs lies in the Etah district, on the border near Eka police station, and camps of their womenfolk are often seen on the march through this district, but the men, though keeping in touch with the caravan, are rarely to be seen accompanying it. Burglary, cattle theft and ordinary theft are fairly common, and are not confined to any particular castes, though the Aheriyas and Ahirs in the Eka police circle appear to have an unusual predilection for these forms of crime. Most of the circles can boast of one or two villages which are favourite haunts of well known criminals and police suspects, and in this Eka is pre-eminent, though there are several other centres which require to be watched: such are Biltigarh in Shikohabad Azampur, Silauta and Bajhera in Jasrana; Manchhana in Mainpuri and Baijua in Sirsaganj. This list has no pretensions to be exhaustive. Cattle theft is perhaps more common than would appear from the returns. The Ahirs, who are the most numerous caste in the district, have long been

renowned for this among many other lawless practices. One of their favourite devices is to pass on stolen cattle from village to village where they have connections, until all possibility of tracing the animals is lost. Another of their practices is the old border blackmail, the holding of cattle to ransom. It not infrequently happens that the villager finds it less trouble to pay the sum demanded than to leave the enquiry to the police.

Female infanticide.

The Mainpuri district has always been notorious as the stronghold of female infanticide. This is chiefly due to its being the principal home of the Chauhan Thakurs, who are well known to have been addicted to the practice; but Bhadauria, Tank and Bais Thakurs as well as Kamharia, Ghosi and Phatak Ahirs have also been suspected with good reason. Active measures for the repression of this crime were first taken in 1842-3, when Mr. Unwin issued a set of rules for the supervision of the Chauhan Thakurs and Phatak Ahirs, among whom it was most common. The chaukidars in all Chauhan and Phatak villages were at once to report at the police station the birth of any female child. After verifying this report the officer in charge of the station was to inform the Magistrate, who called for a further report on the child's health at the end of a month. Any illness was to be reported without delay and the case inspected by a police officer, and in the event of the child's death under suspicious circumstances the corpse was sent to the Civil Surgeon for a *post mortem* examination. These rules continued in force till they were superseded by others under Act VIII of 1870. In 1843, the year in which they were issued, there was not a single female child to be found among the Chauhans; in 1844 there were 156 female children alive; in 1845 there were 57; in 1846 there were 222, and 299 in 1847. But though the rules were beneficial they were inadequate, as it was very often impossible to get such evidence as would secure the conviction of a parent under the provisions of the existing law, even where it was quite certain that a female child had been murdered. Reporting on Mr. Unwin's rules in 1851, Mr. Raikes proposed a measure by which proof of gross neglect on the part of the parents should render them liable to imprisonment, but nothing was done to carry out the suggestion. He also attempted to

put down the crime through the agency of the people themselves, and with this object he in 1851 assembled the heads of the various clans at a conference at Saman and induced them to enter into an agreement to curtail their extravagant expenditure on marriages. The sum of Rs. 500 was fixed as the limit of the dowry to be demanded by a bridegroom, the presence of Brahmans and Bhats and the other attendants on marriages was to be discouraged and the profuse outlay on the wedding feast in feeding the numerous followers of the invited chiefs was to be reduced. A similar meeting, attended by the leading chiefs of all the neighbouring districts, was held soon afterwards at Mainpuri by the Commissioner, and a set of rules drawn up and signed by the Rajas of Mainpuri, Partabnair and Rampur. These rules were, however, never observed, the real motive for extravagance, and therefore the hidden cause of infanticide, lying entirely beyond the reach of any such regulations. A Thakur's ambition to make an illustrious alliance could only be gratified by purchasing a son-in-law of nobler blood than his own; the nobler the lineage, the larger the sum. So long as this costly ambition remained rooted in the Thakur, the scale of expenditure could not be controlled. The habit of contracting equal marriages had to be naturalized to him, directly by advice and encouragement, and indirectly by the enactment of heavy pains and penalties to follow on the destruction of his daughters. In September 1865 Mr. B. Colvin made a census of the Chauhan and Phatak infant population, which showed among the Chauhans 2,065 boys and 1,469 girls, and among the Phataks 599 boys and 423 girls. In six important Chauhan villages not a single girl under six years of age was alive, and within the memory of man there was never a daughter known in them. Mr. Colvin at once selected Narayanpur, the seat of one of the younger branches of the Mainpuri house, in which no female children were to be found, and, with the sanction of Government, quartered upon it a force of additional police. In 1866 the Chauhan girls had increased to 1,656, in 1868 to 2,019 and in 1869 there were 1,707 girls, the falling off in this year being attributed to the ravages of small-pox. In 1870 an enquiry into the question was held by Mr. Lane, and as the

result of it new rules under Act VIII of 1870 were introduced in the following year. This enquiry showed that there were in the district 606 villages in which Chauhans and Phataks formed a part of the inhabitants. Among the Chauhan villages 316 were found to contain 40 per cent. and upwards of female children where 27 years before not a single daughter had been allowed to live. In other words 69 per cent. of the Chauhan tribe throughout the district had reformed. Of the Phatak tribe only 21 per cent. remained tainted with guilt. A marked improvement had therefore been brought about by Mr. Unwin's rules. But the attempt made by Mr. Raikes to bring about a reform by voluntary effort on the part of the tribes themselves was a complete failure. During 1869 the Raja of Mainpuri, one of the signatories at the Mainpuri meeting of 1851, married his sister to the Raja of Bhadawar in the Agra district. The bridegroom's family was higher in rank, and the alliance therefore to be paid for in proportion. The total cost did not fall far short of a lakh and a half of rupees, for, though no actual dowry *(badan)* was fixed, yet, besides presents voluntarily sent, the Bhadawar chief took whatever met his fancy when he came for his bride, and there was practically no limit to what might have been annexed by him but the exhaustion of the means of the bride's family or the good taste of the bridegroom himself. However, in the following year the Mainpuri Raja called a meeting of his clan, and invited the District Officers to witness his signature to an agreement to put down infanticide and curtail marriage expenses similar to that adopted at the previous conference. At this meeting one old Thakur told Mr. Lane that he had nine daughters, of whom he had married two at a cost of Rs. 5,000 each, but to do the same for the other seven would be his ruin; what was he to do? There was a generally expressed opinion that a reduction in the scale of marriage expenses was desirable, but it was obvious that it could not be brought about except by a very radical and universal reform in Thakur public opinion. Further enquiries instituted in connection with the census of 1872 showed that "many tribes hitherto never named in connection with infanticide were in reality much on the same standing with those whose names had

become a byword, and showed figures that placed them on a par with, and in some cases below, those to whom the stigma had alone hitherto attached." The result was that in 1873 there were 606 villages on the register, with a guilty population of 38,288, amongst whom there were 16 inquests and 12 *post mortem* examinations in suspicious cases. During the next few years increased activity on the part of the new supervising staff led to a great improvement, and under the rule by which villages where 35 per cent. of the minor population were girls could be exempted from the operation of the Act, the numbers on the register were largely reduced, till in 1875 there were only 276 villages, containing 11,794 inhabitants, under supervision. In 1905 the number of villages proclaimed had decreased to 83, of which 19 were branded as "specially guilty." The number of boys under 6 years of age in the proclaimed villages was 1,732 and of girls 1,215. A special police force consisting of 1 sub-inspector and 10 head constables was employed in keeping up the registers, the expense being met by a tax levied on the guilty villages. A special report was called for in that year by the Local Government, which was considering the question of the retention of the Infanticide Act for the whole province. After careful enquiry the Magistrate reported that 52 out of the 83 villages might safely be exempted, while of the remainder 14 were still "specially guilty." It was decided that so small a number did not justify the maintenance of a special establishment, and the provisions of the Act were withdrawn from Mainpuri as from the rest of the province. It was, however, directed that the villages still suspected should be carefully watched and the statistics examined again after five years, the result being reported to Government.

There is only one jail in the district, and the Magistrate's lock-up is situated within it. It is on an ancient and obsolete plan, and has a bad reputation for the prevalence of dysentery. The date of its construction does not appear to be known. The earliest records available date from 1850, when the average number of prisoners was 529, a figure which had sunk by 1900 to 364 and by 1908 to 323. The jail is of the second class, and the ordinary manufactures of carpets, matting, both of *munj* and Jail.

aloe fibre, and cloth of various coarse kinds, are carried on, the total value of the manufactures produced in 1908 being Rs. 4,314.

Excise. The excise administration is concerned with the manufacture and sale of liquor and spirits, intoxicating drugs, opium and *tari*, and the statistics dealing with this branch of the administration will be found in the appendix for the years 1890 to 1907. It will be seen that during this period the receipts have more than doubled, and they are three times as great as they were forty years ago. The district was for many years provided with a distillery, but it was not a success. Only four or five stills were in use, and the Kalwars, who were both ignorant and unskilful, found it more convenient to import their liquor from Meerut and Farrukhabad. The distillery was closed in 1906. The country spirit consumed in the district is that prepared from molasses.

Hemp drugs. *Charas* and *bhang* are the drugs chiefly consumed, the use of *ganja* being very limited. *Charas* is imported from Hoshiarpur and *bhang* from Saharanpur. The farming system has always been in force and there is now only one contract for the whole district, instead of one for each tahsil as was formerly the case. There has of recent years been a remarkable inflation in the price of this contract, which at the last auction realized Rs. 22,943, whereas in 1890 it was disposed of for Rs. 8,820—this, too, in spite of the fact that since 1896 a duty has been levied on the drug itself. This is now Rs. 4 per *ser* on *ganja* and Rs. 6 on *charas*, and about Rs. 6,000 a year is realized from this source. There are now 62 shops in the district licensed to sell the hemp drugs.

Opium. The income is derived from license fees and duty, the latter being included in the price of the opium, which is sold at the Government treasury at Rs. 17 a *ser*. The contract is given for the whole district to one person, but a monopoly and any undue raising of the price are prevented by the sale of opium to all comers at the treasuries. There is a fairly large consumption of opium in the district, amounting for some years past to about 12 maunds a year on the average. This refers to the exciseable article, as it is of course impossible, in an opium-growing district, to estimate how much of the crude drug is smuggled in spite of all possible precautions on the part of the Opium department. There are 20 shops licensed to sell the drug.

Tari, the fermented juice obtained from the *tar* or palmyra palm by tapping, is not consumed to any very great extent in this district. The farming system has always been in vogue except in the interval between 1896 and 1903, when the shop-to-shop system was experimentally tried. This resulted in some increase in the revenue, but was abandoned owing to the trouble and risk of loss involved in dealing with a number of small vendors. The receipts from the sale of *tari* reached their maximum in 1899, when the sum of Rs. 4,723 was obtained, but in 1908 they were only Rs. 4,225. *Tari.*

Stamp duties are collected under the Indian Stamp Act (II of 1899) and the Court Fees Act (VII of 1870). A table given in the appendix shows the total receipts from stamps for each year since 1890-1, with details for non-judicial and other stamps and also the expenditure. Very few negotiable instruments are executed, and the transactions consist chiefly of the transfer of landed property. The income from non-judicial stamps has remained fairly stationary, with fluctuations from year to year, but that from court-fee stamps has for some time past shown a steady tendency to rise and is now at a high level. This may be taken as a sign of prosperity, as litigation is an expensive luxury which cannot be indulged in in bad times. It is worthy of note that in the famine year of 1896-7 the receipts from court-fee stamps dropped to the lowest point they have reached during the period. Stamps

The Registrar of the district is the District Judge, subordinate to whom are the sub-registrars stationed at the headquarters of each of the tahsils, *viz.* at Mainpuri, Karhal, Bhongaon, Shikohabad and Jasrana. The average receipts from registration for the last ten years have been Rs. 7,310 and the expenditure Rs. 4,428 for the same period. Regist[ra]tion.

The introduction in 1903 of the new rules under which incomes of less than Rs. 1,000 are exempted from taxation has materially reduced the receipts under this head in Mainpuri. In the year 1902-3 the net receipts were Rs. 26,759, and in 1903-4, the first year after the new rules came into force, they dropped to Rs. 18,373. In the previous year the tax derived from incomes of less than Rs. 1,000 amounted to Rs. 7,506, and was levied Incom[e] tax.

from 654 assessees, while there were only 421 persons assessed on incomes of Rs. 1,000 or more. In 1908-9 the total number of persons assessed was 415, of whom 319 paid on incomes ranging between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 and 96 on incomes above Rs. 2,000. The net receipts in both classes were Rs. 8,394 and Rs. 10,060 respectively.

Post Office.

A list of the post offices is given in the appendix. The headquarters office is situated in the civil lines at Mainpuri, and there are besides 10 sub-offices and 22 branch offices, whence the mails are distributed to the villages in each circle. All these offices are now under imperial management, the district *dak* having been finally abolished in 1907.

Telegraphs.

The head telegraph office is at Mainpuri, with branch offices at Karhal and Shikohabad. There is a line to Karhal along the Karhal road, but elsewhere the wires run along the railway, which has a telegraph office at each station. Thus all the tahsil headquarters except Jasrana are connected by telegraph with Mainpuri. The canal telegraph offices at Jera and Gopalpur are also available for the public, and wires run from the canal office at Mainpuri to the Bewar branch at Bilon and the Cawnpore branch at Dannahar, from which two points the main lines along the canals are tapped.

Canal telegraphs.

There are telegraph offices in connection with the wires along the four main branch canals and the wire from Mainpuri to Dannahar and Bilon at the following places: Mainpuri, Gopalpur, Tarha, Jalalpur, Ghiror, Bujhia and Shikohabad. At several bungalows a camp instrument can be set up, these places being called interpolating stations, *viz.* at Muhkampur, Dannahar, Bhanwat, Dhanraus on the Cawnpore branch; at Bewar, Barauli, Bilon and Majholi on the Bewar branch; at Patikra, Gangsi and Bilanda on the Etawah branch, and at Bhadan on the Bhognipur branch. The canal telegraphs are available primarily for departmental use in regard to the regulation of supply at the regulators and escapes and other departmental matters, and secondarily for the use of the public.

Municipalities.

The only municipality in the district is the principal town Mainpuri. There are no records available to show how the affairs of the town were managed in the early days of British

rule, but the Collector would seem to have had a free hand. Later on it was administered under Act XX of 1856, and it was not till the 16th March 1866 that it was raised to the dignity of a municipality under Act XXVI of 1850. A committee was then appointed consisting of four European officers, one native official and four non-official members, the first meeting being held on the 25th April 1866. The members were appointed by Government on nomination. Act VI of 1868, the Municipal Improvements (N.-W. P.) Act, introduced the principle of election along with nomination at present in force, and in that year five members were thus appointed by election. Two other municipal Acts (XV of 1873 and XV of 1883) were passed before the Municipalities Act, I of 1900, came into operation. The number of elected members is now eight and of appointed members three. The District Magistrate has always been chairman, except for ten days in 1882, when a non-official member held the post. Since 1902 a paid secretary has been employed. The main source of income is octroi duty levied at various barriers commanding all the most important points of entrance into the city. The average gross income under this head for the five years ending in 1909 was Rs. 19,975, or deducting refunds Rs. 17,706, of which rather more than half was derived from articles of food. The other chief items of income are from piece-goods and textile fabrics, chemicals, drugs and spices, and building materials. Octroi is responsible for more than four-fifths of the total income, the rest being contributed by a tax on weighmen, license fees, rents, fines and miscellaneous items, including slaughter-house income, proceeds of sweepings, &c. The main items of expenditure are conservancy, lighting, public works, education and contributions.

There are two notified areas in the district: at Shikohabad and in the civil station of Mainpuri. Five towns are administered under Act XX of 1856—Sirsaganj, Karhal, Bhongaon, Pharha and Kuraoli. The civil station notified area, which includes the Gola Bazar, was up till 1909 an Act XX town. It has a population of about 1,000 and was once the Gora Bazar of the old cantonment area. The income in these towns and notified areas is derived from a tax on property, *nazul* income and the sale of refuse. The Village Sanitation Act has been applied in

Ghiror, Bewar and Jasrana, and in these the only income is drawn from the proceeds of petty fines under the Act.

District board.

Prior to the year 1882 there existed in the district a local funds committee with a corresponding education and dispensary committee under the Local Rates Acts XIV and XVIII of 1871, and the corresponding Acts III and IV of 1878. These were superseded under Government resolution no. 393 of 4th March 1882, and a new district committee was required to be formed with effect from the 1st April 1882. This committee was actually formed with effect from the 19th June 1882, and its constitution was legalized under Act XIV of 1883. The district board now consists of 16 members, of whom 4 hold seats by virtue of their offices and 12 are elected. The District Magistrate is Chairman of the board, and the other official members are the subdivisional magistrates, one of whom is usually elected secretary. The scope of the work of the district board is very large, the departments dealt with including education, medical arrangements, vaccination, sanitation, local public works, the care of *sarais* and encamping grounds, the testing of vital statistics, the local work of the Civil Veterinary department and cattle pounds and ferries. The tables given in the appendix show the income and expenditure of the board since the year 1891.

Education.

A report drawn up by Mr. Raikes in 1848 on the condition of indigenous schools resulted in the establishment of tahsili and indigenous schools in 1850. The returns of 1848 show that there were then in the district (including the parganas since transferred to Etah) 152 schools attended by 1,149 pupils, of whom 956 were Hindus. There were 79 towns and villages provided with schools and 1,380 without them. The general feeling was described as being "unfavourable to literary pursuits even of the most humble and practicable character." The *zila* or district school was opened in 1867, the only Anglo-vernacular school previously in existence being one belonging to the American Presbyterian Mission. In 1875 there were altogether 328 schools in the district attended by 6,872 pupils. Of these 145 were indigenous schools with 1,443 pupils. In 1909 the number of Government and aided schools was 167 with

6,937 male and 621 female scholars. Of these six were secondary schools with 1,080 boys and one girl and the rest primary schools with 5,857 male and 620 female scholars. A detailed list of all schools, except indigenous schools, is given in the appendix. All are managed or aided by the district board, with the exception of the model girls' school at Mainpuri. The supervision of the district board schools is carried out by a deputy inspector and two sub-deputy inspectors. The *zila* school, now a high school, is under the direct supervision of the inspector of schools and his assistant. The Mission School is also a High School and is a flourishing institution. Mainpuri is one of the backward districts in respect of education. The bulk of the population in the rural tracts consists of Rajputs and Ahirs, who have never as a class shown any enthusiasm to send their children to school, and hitherto the district has been a kind of backwater, unaffected by the current of Western civilization, which has swept over other parts of the country. The new railway which has opened up the centre of the district may be expected to do something towards infusing a new spirit in these matters.

Literacy.

The statistics of literacy compiled at the various census periods show that the advance of the average inhabitants of the Mainpuri district in this direction has been slow if steady. In 1881 it was found that 37 males in 1,000 were literate, and 8 females out of the same number. In 1891 these figures had increased to 38 and 14 respectively, while in 1901 a further rise to 42 in the case of males and 18 in that of females was recorded. It is to be remembered that for census purposes "literate" means only "able to read and write," and that the educational standard requisite is not therefore a high one; but even at this standard only six districts in the provinces rank lower in the scale of male literacy, though no less than 22 have a smaller percentage of literate females. The small Musalman population is distinctly better educated than the Hindu majority, 3·5 per cent. of the former possessing the art of reading and writing to 2·06 of the latter, the figures for males being 6·43 and 3·66 respectively, and for females ·26 and ·14. This disproportion is probably due to the larger number of town residents among the Musalmans and

to the fact that their ordinary avocations are of a more humanizing tendency than agriculture. In the matter of English education both are remarkably deficient, though not more so than their neighbours, only ·16 per cent. of the Hindu population and ·33 of the Musulmans having any tincture of this, while neither class seems as yet to have allowed its womenfolk to experiment with foreign learning.

Dispensarie.

In addition to the dispensary and hospital at headquarters, which are directly in charge of the Civil Surgeon with a civil assistant surgeon, there are also outlying dispensaries, each in charge of a hospital assistant, at Bhongaon, Karhal, Shikohabad and Jasrana. These all belong to the District Board and are under the control of the Civil Surgeon, who also looks after the police hospital and the jail dispensary. At Gopalpur there is a dispensary in charge of a hospital assistant, maintained by the Irrigation department. The Dufferin hospital for female patients at Mainpuri was built by public subscription in 1894, Rs. 7,087 being collected. It is not at present in an altogether satisfactory condition, as considerable additions and improvements are needed in the accommodation. The average daily attendance at all the hospitals and dispensaries in the district during 1908-9 was 401 out-patients and 29 in-patients. The latter were almost entirely confined to the general and Dufferin hospitals at Mainpuri, the former accounting for 22 of the total. The average number of the out-patients attending each of the four outlying dispensaries every day was between 40 and 70.

Cattle pounds.

There are 25 cattle pounds under district board management, besides one under the control of the municipality at Mainpuri and two within the Shikohabad and Mainpuri civil station notified areas respectively. The income derived from them is an important item in the receipts of the district board, amounting in 1908-9 to Rs. 12,195. The pounds are situated at Bewar, Kusmara, Bhongaon, Eka, Pharha, Jasrana, Sirsaganj, Kurra, Barnahal, Karhal, Dannahar, Bhanwat, Kuraoli, Ghiror, Auncha, Kothia, Kosma, Kaurari, Khairgarh, Nitaoli, Nabiganj, Sultanganj, Nagla Madari, Bhadan and Kishni. The last seven are of recent origin, having been established within the last nine years.

Nazul. *Nazul* now includes all immovable property belonging to Government managed by the Collector or by any provincial department, or of which the management has been made over to a local body. In this district the income is chiefly derived from leasing a few odd plots for cultivation, from leases of grazing rights and from sales of fruits, timber and so forth from the *nazul* garden and other lands managed by the district and municipal boards, and the Mainpuri civil station notified area. The total income for 1908-09 was Rs. 917, of which Rs. 440 were derived from *nazul* under the management of the district board, Rs. 300 from municipal *nazul* plots and Rs. 177 from lands under the Collector's management. Of this sum of Rs. 177, Rs. 122 have been since transferred to the notified area, and Rs. 967 also accrue to the same from agricultural lands, not *nazul*, in *mauza* Arazi Line, formerly under the control of the Board of Revenue, but one-quarter of these two heads of receipt is credited to Government.

CHAPTER V.

HISTORY.

Early history.

The materials for a history of Mainpuri are exceedingly scanty, and can, indeed, scarcely be said to exist till after the Musalman invasion, when references to places within its borders are occasionally to be met with in the pages of historians. But the *kheras* or mounds, on which stand so many modern villages and towns, afford abundant evidence, in the coins and fragments of masonry and broken pottery which they contain, that these sites have been continuously inhabited by civilised communities from a very remote antiquity. At Parham General Cunningham found coins of various periods from that of the satraps Rajubul and his son Sandasa, while Buddhist remains dating from the early centuries of the Christian era are common. But the only historical facts to be gleaned from the testimony of these mute memorials are the continuity of civilization in the region now comprised in the Mainpuri district and a knowledge of the kingdoms to which it at different times belonged. After forming part of the Gupta empire Mainpuri was included in Harsha's kingdom of Kanauj, and continued for several centuries to be attached to that capital.

Musalman invasion.

In 1018 A.D. Mahmud of Ghazni, after sacking undefended Muttra, marched across Mainpuri on his way to the capture of Kanauj, but no opposition seems to have been offered to his advance, and the district then contained no town of sufficient wealth or sanctity to attract either the conqueror's greed or his fanaticism. The alliance made by Rajyapala of Kanauj with the infidel so disgusted his Hindu co-religionists that in the following year the Rajput chiefs of Kalanjar and Gwalior invaded Kanauj and killed its king, leaving to his descendants a considerably diminished dominion. In 1090 this was wrested from them by the Gaharwar Raja Chandradeva, whose line continued on the throne until they, like the rest of Northern India, were overwhelmed in the torrent of a fresh Musalman invasion. In 1194 Shahab-ud-din Ghori, who had in the previous year defeated and slain Prithiraj, the Chauhan prince of Dehli, marched against

Jai Chand of Kanauj. The armies met at Chandwara on the Jamna, just outside the Mainpuri border, and the Hindu chief was routed and killed.

From this time onwards Mainpuri continued to be a Musalman dependency, though parts of it were held by Hindu chiefs who from time to time rebelled against the central government. The Musalman conquest crushed a multitude of petty Hindu principalities and turned adrift numbers of clans to seek new homes remote from the intolerable shadow of the new régime. It was at this period, according to the legends of the house, that the Chauhans migrated from Delhi southwards, establishing themselves in Mainpuri and spreading over the adjoining districts. With them came the Mathuriya Chaubes, the Kachwahas, the Dhakaras, and others, while the wild and inaccessible ravines along the Jamna afforded a fitting refuge to the turbulent and unruly Ahirs who swarmed in vast numbers into the western parganas. Here, in a region covered with jungles and almost impenetrable, they were always a serious nuisance to the imperial government, and even as late as the reign of Shahjahan the country round Shikohabad was notorious for the dacoits who sheltered in the dense forests of scrub and *dhak*.

Rapri.

But the two important local divisions of the territory which now makes up the Mainpuri district were the fiefs of Rapri and Bhongaon, or Bhuinganw as it was then called, which divided between them the entire political and fiscal administration of the district until the reign of Akbar. Rapri, now a little village on the left bank of the Jamna in pargana Shikohabad, is said to have been founded by Rao Zorawar Singh, locally known as Rapar Sen, who made it the head of a petty kingdom comprising the ravines of the Jamna and the country now included in the neighbouring parganas of Shikohabad, Mustafabad, Ghiror and Barnahal. After the defeat of Jai Chand in 1194 the victorious army marched southwards against the Raja of Rapri and defeated him at a spot about 3 miles to the north-east of his capital. In commemoration of the victory the name of the small village where the battle was fought was changed from Karkha to Fatehpur, a title which it preserves to the present day. Rapri became thenceforward the headquarters of an *ikta* or fief and continued

to be the seat of government for several centuries under successive Musalman rulers.

Bhongaon.

Bhongaon, on the other hand, seems to have retained its Hindu rulers without interruption, though they were probably in at least nominal subjection to the holders of some Musalman fief, perhaps that of Kanauj. The first distinct mention of the raj in the first half of the 15th century describes the Raja as holding also Patiali in what is now the Etah district and Kampil in Farrukhabad and apparently subordinate only to the emperor at Dehli. The most likely supposition is that the boundaries of the various fiefs depended largely on the vigour and ambition of their possessors and that so long as the imperial authority was not openly flouted these were allowed a considerable latitude in extending their spheres of influence. Mainpuri was in all probability included in the grant* of "all the territories of Bhongaon, Koil, Jalesar and Gwalior" made in 1259 to Sher Khan, the nephew of Ulugh Khan, the noble who afterwards became emperor under the title Ghiyas-ud-din. In 1312 Malik Kafur, the favourite of Ala-ud-din Khilji, halted at Rapri on his way back to Dehli with the booty of plundered Malabar and Dhur Samundar, and founded there the mosque which still stands with its dedicatory inscription. This runs as follows: "The building of this noble work took place by the grace of God and the assistance of the Almighty and the favour of the Lord, during the time of the reign of the second Alexander, Ala-ud-dunya waddin, who is distinguished by the kindness of the Lord of worlds, Abul Muzafar Muhammad Shah, the king, the helper of the commander of the faithful, and during the Governorship of the mean slave of His Majesty, Kafur, the Royal, May God accept it from them and may God give them an excellent reward! In the middle of the blessed month of Ramzan (may God increase its honour!) of the year 711".† From this it would appear that Malik Kafur, in addition to his many other dignities and possessions, had received also the fief of Rapri, and that he considered it of sufficient importance to be worthy of selection as

* E. H. I., III, p. 380.

† Proc. A. S. B., p. 156. The tablet measures 5 feet by 2 and the letters are thick and clumsy. Cf. also E. H. I., III. p. 204.

a site for a memorial building. Until the end of the century no more is heard of the district. In 1392 Bir Bahan,* the *muqaddam* of Bhongaon, joined Narsingh, the Tomar chief of Gwalior, and Sarvadharan of Etawah, in a rebellion against Muhammad Shah Tughlaq, but the revolt was crushed and the country of the rebels laid waste.

Formation of Jaunpur Kingdom.

Evidently the whole of this portion of the Duab was now in a very disturbed and insecure state, for the Emperor had found it necessary some few years before to make Jalesar, in the Etah district, his headquarters in order to be able to exercise a more efficient control, and, when recalled to Delhi at the end of 1392 on account of troubles in the north, was obliged to send an army under Mukarrab-ul-Mulk to keep order at Jalesar. Nor was the precaution unnecessary. No sooner had the Emperor gone than the Rajput clans once more broke out into open rebellion headed again by Bir Bahan and Sarvadharan. Mukarrab-ul-Mulk, who was despatched against the insurgents, tried conciliatory methods, and by lavish promises and engagements induced the chiefs to surrender and accompany him to Kanauj, where he treacherously put them to death with the exception of Sarvadharan, who escaped. But this dishonest victory was of no lasting benefit. On the death of Muhammad Shah in January 1394 and the accession of his youngest son Mahmud Shah, "owing to the turbulence of the base infidels the affairs of the fiefs of Hindustan had fallen into such confusion" that it was found necessary to divide up the empire and appoint a viceroy to govern the eastern provinces under the title of Maliku-sh Sharq, or King of the East, with authority over all Hindustan from Kanauj to Bihar. This was the beginning of the Jaunpur kingdom which was to prove hereafter such a thorn in the side of the Delhi empire. The first act of Khwaja-i-Jahan, the new viceroy, on proceeding to his charge was to "chastise the rebels of Etawah, Kol, Kahura-Kanil, and the environs of Jaunpur," after which he went on to Jaunpur, where he gradually consolidated his power. Henceforward Mainpuri, like the rest of the Duab, becomes a sort of debateable land on which the various pretenders to the throne of Dehli fought out their claims. The year 1394 ended with two rival kings, one

* E. H. I., IV, p. 26, 27.

at Delhi and the other at Firozabad, with daily skirmishes taking place between their adherents. This continued till 1398, when a third aspirant, in the person of Iqbal Khan, entered the arena, and by a combination of violence and treachery established himself as virtual sovereign at Delhi while professing to restore Muhammad Shah, who was, however, a mere puppet in his hands. But the new régime had only lasted a few months when the invasion of Timur drove both king and minister to take refuge in flight. The whole Duab was laid waste with fire and sword, and in the next year, 1399, after the invader's return to Samarkand, pestilence and famine visited the ravaged land. Another period of anarchy followed. Nusrat Shah, the old pretender, once more made head against Iqbal Khan, and the holders of outlying fiefs set up as independent princes, Malik Mubarak, the adopted son of the viceroy of the East, taking the title of Sultan Mubarak Shah. The Hindu chiefs of Mainpuri and Etawah were not likely to lose such an opportunity to assert their independence, but were again unsuccessful, being defeated in 1400 by Iqbal Khan at Patiali in the Etah district. The fugitives were hunted all across Mainpuri up to the Etawah border. Iqbal Khan now marched against Mubarak Shah, but after the armies had lain facing one another on opposite sides of the Ganges for two months both departed home without bloodshed. Next year (1401) Iqbal Khan returned to Kanauj with the titular Emperor Muhammad Shah, who resented his humiliating position and took an early opportunity of leaving his too powerful minister and going over to the Jaunpur army. Here, however, he was coldly received, and so proceeded to Kanauj, where he established himself and was left in peace by both parties, who, as before, returned to their homes without a battle. Another rising of the irrepressible Rajputs in 1404 ended with the siege and capitulation of Etawah, after which Iqbal Khan made an attempt on Kanauj, but without success. In the following year he was killed in the Punjab, and Muhammad was invited back to Dehli, Kanauj soon after falling into the hands of Ibrahim Shah, who had succeeded his brother Mubarak Shah as King of Jaunpur.

Rajput rebellions.

After several years of turmoil and confusion Khizr Khan the Saiyid succeeded in 1414 to Muhammad and sent his general

Taj-ul-Mulk to pacify Hindustan. Rapri was still in the hands of a Musalman amir, Hasan Khan, who with his brother Malik Hamza hastened to wait upon the Emperor's representative. But the rest of the neighbouring Duab was evidently as insubordinate as ever and Taj-ul-Mulk had to wrest Jalesar from the infidels of Chandawar in order to restore it to Musalman control, while the way in which the same infidels are recorded as having "bowed their necks to the yoke of obedience" and paid in their taxes, clearly indicates that this submission was an unaccustomed thing.* Taj-ul-Mulk returned to Delhi by way of Etawah, "chastising the infidels," presumably the Rajputs of Mainpuri and Etawah, as he went. But the Thakur clans were not easily to be tamed. By 1420 they were again in rebellion, and another punitive expedition under Taj-ul-Mulk had to be despatched against them. After crushing the revolt in Aligarh, the imperial troops marched to Mainpuri, where they destroyed the village of Dehli, or Dihuli, in Barnahal, described as "the strongest place in the possession of the infidels," and then, as now, the headquarters of a colony of Bais Rajputs. The Etawah chief was soon forced to submit, and after laying waste Chandawar and its neighbourhood the army proceeded into Rohilkhand.

Fall of the Saiyi dynasty.

In 1426 the Jaunpur king, Ibrahim Shah, made another attempt on Delhi, but was defeated in a pitched battle to the west of the Jamna and his force retreated by Rapri to their own country, being followed by the enemy as far as Batesar.† The new Amir of Rapri, Qutb Khan, son of Hasan Khan, would seem to have made common cause with the Chauhans, Rathors and Bhadaurias in the rebellions which occurred, year after year, at this time, for in 1429-30 the fief was taken away from him by Mubarak Shah, the successor of Khizr Khan, and given to his uncle, Malik Hamza, who had wisely attached himself to the imperial interests.§ On the death of Mubarak's successor Muhammad, however, and the accession of Ala-ud-din in 1444, Qutb Khan was once more in possession of Rapri, to which were also attached the fiefs of Chandawar and Etawah. At the same time Rai Partab held Bhongaon, Patiali, and Kampil. The latter was evidently a personage of some note, for we find him

* E. H. I. IV, 47. | † *Ibid.* IV, 65. | ‡ *Ibid.* IV, 68. | § *Ibid.* IV, 435.

among the first consulted by Ala-ud-din, who, though titular Lord of the World, was actually master only of Delhi and its environs, as to the best means of strengthening his position. The father of the Emperor's Wazir, Hamid Khan, had, some years before, carried off the wife of Rai Partab and plundered his estates. The Rajput chief, implacable in his vendetta, offered his assistance but demanded as the price of it the death of Hamid Khan. Ala-ud-din unwisely embraced the injured husband's cause and gave orders for Hamid Khan's execution, but the wazir escaped and seizing Delhi offered it to Bahlol the Lodi. Ala-ud-din retired to Budaun, and soon after resigned his crown to Bahlol, who in 1450 assumed the imperial title.* Thus the rape of the Chauhanin Rani of Bhongaon was the cause of the down fall of the Saiyid dynasty.

The Lodis. With the accession of Bahlol the truce with Jaunpur which had continued through the last years of the Saiyids came to an end, and Mahmud, who had succeeded Ibrahim, marched on Delhi, but was defeated. Bahlol then proceeded to establish his power firmly, and with this object made a progress through his dominions, visiting the various fiefs whose governors had, during his predecessor's feeble reign, become practically independent. Some were confirmed in their authority, some were dispossessed, and all were compelled to recognize his suzerainty. Rai Partab, "chief of the zamindars in those parts, was confirmed in his possession of Bhuinganw." At Rapri, Qutb Khan attempted resistance, but his fort was speedily captured, and he then submitted, whereupon he also was confirmed in his *jagirs*.† In the meanwhile, Mahmud of Jaunpur, at the instigation of Malika Jahan, the chief lady of his harem, who was related to the deposed Emperor Ala-ud-din, advanced with a considerable force against Bahlol and encamped near Etawah. After an indecisive engagement, by the good offices of Rai Partab and Qutb Khan, a treaty of peace was made, the principal provisions of which were that Bahlol should keep the territories which had belonged to Mubarak Shah, while Mahmud should be left in possession of these formerly held by Ibrahim of Jaunpur. The latter was also to hand over Shamsabad to one Rai Karan, son of the Rai of Gwalior.

* E. H. I., IV. 74, 75. | † *Ibid.* V, 79 and IV, 435.

This last condition was not observed and Bahlol had to expel the Jaunpur governor from Shamsabad by force of arms.* Mahmud, regardless of the treaty, at once marched on Shamsabad and some skirmishing ensued, in the course of which Qutb Khan Lodi, the cousin of Bahlol, was taken prisoner. The war was terminated by the death of Mahmud and another peace was made on the old terms. Once more, however, a woman was the cause of war. This time it was the chief lady of Bahlol's harem, who was Qutb Khan's sister. She sent a message to the Sultan, bitterly reproaching him with his supineness in allowing her brother to remain a captive, and threatening to kill herself unless he were released. Bahlol at once set out against Muhammad Shah, the successor of Mahmud, who, equally ready to resume hostilities, without loss of time attacked Shamsabad and occupied it. This success alarmed Rai Partab, who hastened to abandon the cause of Bahlol and go over to the victorious party of Muhammad Shah. The latter crossed the Mainpuri district by forced marches until he reached Sarseni near Rapri, where Bahlol was encamped. Some fighting took place between the two armies,† but a disastrous night manoeuvre, which resulted in the capture of one of Muhammad Shah's brothers and the headlong flight of another back to Jaunpur, compelled that prince to beat a retreat to Kanauj.

Here he found that Husain Khan, the brother who had fled from Rapri, had been proclaimed king in his absence by the queen-mother in revenge for the murder of another of her sons by his orders. A battle followed between the brothers in which Muhammad Shah was defeated, and after his subsequent murder peace was once more made between the two kingdoms, Qutb Khan Lodi being released in exchange for Jalal Khan the Jaunpur prince, and Rai Partab again returning to his old allegiance.‡ But neither the new peace nor the renewed loyalty was destined to endure. Shamsabad was once more the stumbling-block. Bahlol again drove out the Jaunpur governor, reinstating his own nominee, Rai Karan. Almost immediately afterwards Rai Partab's son, Narsingh Deo, was murdered by Darya Khan, a cousin of Bahlol. In revenge for this deed the Bhongaon chief conspired

* E. H. I., V. 80. | † *Ibid.* 81. | ‡ *Ibid.* 83. 84.

with Qutb Khan of Rapri and other nobles, and they went over in a body to the Sharqi monarch.* Weakened by these defections Bahlol had to retire to Delhi, whence he was summoned to Multan by news of trouble in the Punjab. Before he had gone far he was recalled in haste to meet a fresh invasion by the Jaunpur army, and, after a bloody but indecisive action lasting seven days, one more truce was made for three years.† The history of the next few years is one of the continual renewal and breaking of truces with equal discredit to either party, but with gradually increasing advantage to Sultan Bahlol, who in 1483 dealt his enemy a severe blow by falling upon him as he was marching unsuspiciously off after concluding yet another treaty. By this treachery Bahlol took many prisoners, among others Malika Jahan, the chief wife of Husain Khan, and also got possession of several of the Jaunpur parganas. Husain Khan turned at Rapri and faced his enemy, but a battle was averted by the conclusion of the usual truce. This time it was Husain Khan who broke his word, incited thereto by his wife, who, though honourably treated and quickly returned to her husband, had not forgiven Bahlol for the insult of her captivity. A desperate battle was fought at Sonhar in Etah. Husain Khan was routed and fled to Rapri, whither he was followed by Bahlol. In another sanguinary engagement Husain Khan was once more defeated and driven in flight across the Jamna, losing many of his wives and children in the passage of the river. Bahlol proceeded to occupy Etawah and then advanced against Jaunpur, which he captured, eventually driving Husain Khan into Bihar‡ (1479). The Jaunpur kingdom thus ceased to have an independent existence, but Bahlol, instead of dividing it up into separate fiefs, conferred it as a whole on his son, Barbak Khan, an act which was destined to cause trouble to Delhi in the future. At the same time he portioned out the rest of his dominions among his other sons. Nizam Shah, afterwards called Sikandar, was nominated his heir and successor and received Delhi and several districts in the Duab; to Alam Khan were allotted Karra and Manikpur; to his grandson Azam Humayun Lucknow and

* E. H. I., IV, 85 with notes. | † *Ibid.*

‡ E. H. I., V, 85—90.

Kalpi ; and Bahraich to Muhammad Farmuli ; while Khan Jahan, a relative and one of his oldest officers, obtained Budaun.*

Sikandar Lodi.

Until Bahlol's death in 1488 the Duab enjoyed a period of unwonted peace, but with the accession of Sikandar the old disorders broke out anew. Many of the nobles regarded Azam Humayun as the rightful heir,† and the new Emperor's two brothers Alam Khan and Barbak Shah espoused their nephew's cause. The former fortified himself at Rapri, but was soon compelled to take refuge in flight, and Rapri was made over to Khan Jahan, or Khan-Khanan Lohani as he is sometimes called, who remained consistently loyal to his new master.

Sikandar then proceeded to Etawah, where he spent the rainy season. Here a reconciliation was effected with Alam Khan, and, in order to detach him from Azam Humayun's interests, Etawah was conferred upon him as a fief.‡ After a successful campaign against Biana, which had rebelled, Sikandar had to meet an attack made by Barbak Shah. The latter was defeated in a battle at Kanauj and compelled to surrender at Budaun, whither he had fled. The emperor, with a clemency most unusual at the period, not only forgave him but replaced him on the throne. Barbak, however, proved unable to keep order in his kingdom, and when Sikandar, who had already suppressed one rising of the insubordinate Bachgoti Rajputs, was called to Jaunpur to put down a second, he abandoned the effort to maintain his brother on the throne, and in 1494 Barbak was sent in chains to Delhi.§ This was the end of the Jaunpur kingdom, after an independent existence for a century, and for many years to come Mainpuri and the surrounding Duab, in ceasing to be the battle ground of the two kingdoms, cease to interest the chroniclers. One more attempt was, however, made in 1518 on the accession of Sikandar's son Ibrahim by the latter's brother Jalal to set up an independent monarchy at Jaunpur. But on the Emperor's marching to Kanauj his rival's forces melted away and he was soon after taken prisoner and privately executed.

Babar.

It was the Amir of Rapri, Khan Jahan, who was mainly responsible for this easy conquest, as it was owing to his remons-

* Firishta. I.560.

† E. H. I., IV. 445 note.

‡ E. H. I., IV. 455 note.

§ *Ibid.* IV. 455. V. 92—94.

trances that the supporters of Jalal abandoned his cause and went over to Ibrahim Shah.* But the latter's cruel and suspicious temper soon gave his partisans reason for regretting their choice, and his reign was disturbed by continual revolts and invasions, and when in 1526 he was defeated and slain by Babar at Panipat, there was no longer an empire, but a mere aggregation of petty principalities. The governors of the various fiefs all asserted their claims to independence and declined to submit to Babar as resolutely as they had refused obedience to Ibrahim. Rapri was held by Husain Khan Lohani, Etawah by Qutb Khan, and Kanauj and the whole country beyond the Ganges by the Afghan Farmulis.† The latter are described by Babar as particularly bold and contumacious. They even advanced against Agra and fortified themselves at an unnamed point in the Mainpuri district, three marches distant from Kanauj.‡ An expedition under Prince Humayun reduced the Afghans to order, but when in 1527 Babar was threatened by the Rajput confederacy at Biana, his troops and governor were obliged to abandon Kanauj, while Husain Khan once more occupied Rapri, Qutb Khan seized Chandawar, and the whole Duab broke out into insurrection.§ The very day after his great victory at Sikri Babar despatched an army into the Duab, which without difficulty restored order. But in 1528, while the Emperor was at Chanderi, his lieutenants were attacked in Oudh and driven back to Kanauj, and from there compelled to fall back on Rapri. No sooner had Chanderi fallen than Babar hastened to their assistance. Crossing the Jamna just below its junction with the Chambal, he advanced on Kanauj, the enemy fleeing before him in every direction. On the Ganges, beyond Kanauj, they made a stand, but were utterly defeated, nothing but a whim of the conqueror's for delaying further action till the anniversary of the victory of Sikri saving them from complete destruction by giving them time for escape.|| The power of the Afghans was now broken and their fiefs were redistributed.

Internal disorder.

Henceforward Rapri ceases to be mentioned as a separate administrative division of the empire and its territories seem to

* E. H. I., V. 8. | † E. H. I., IV, 263. | ‡ *Ibid.* IV, 265.
§ *Ibid.* IV. 270. | || *Ibid.* IV. 278.

have been merged in those of Etawah to the south and Firozabad to the north. On the accession of Humayun in 1530 civil strife again broke out, and Kanauj and its neighbourhood were constantly the theatre of war. The embarrassments of the supreme government were evidently the opportunity of the unruly Rajput clans of Mainpuri, and from occasional hints it is clear that the whole countryside was in a most disturbed condition. After Humayun's defeat by Sher Shah at Kanauj in 1540 he fled with a small following towards Agra through the district. "When they reached the village of Bhuingaon, the peasants, *who were in the habit of plundering a defeated army,* stopped up the road, and one of them wounded Mirza Yadgar with an arrow."* But under the iron rule of Sher Shah during the next five years these disorders ceased. Even the intractable Ahirs and Mewatis in the Jamna region were compelled to submit by having 1,200 horsemen quartered on their villages,† and so complete was the order that prevailed throughout Hindustan that "a decrepit old woman might place a basket full of gold ornaments over her head and go on a journey, and no thief or robber would come near her, for fear of the punishments which Sher Shah inflicted."‡ But the other princes of the house of Sur had little of the talent or the energy of the founder of their line, and when Akbar succeeded his restored father in 1556 the empire was once more rent with dissensions between the nobles and a prey to internal anarchy. An interesting light is thrown on the condition of the country by the account of Akbar's adventure at Paraunkh in pargana Bewar with the local Bais Rajputs in 1562. The Emperor was on his way to Sakit on a hunting expedition when a Brahman complained to him that dacoits from that region had murdered his son and plundered all his property. Akbar at once resolved to punish the offence, and advanced with his elephants and retinue to the village Paraunkh in Bewar where the dacoits had taken refuge. The number of men with the imperial camp amounted to only a few hundred with 200 elephants, while the dacoits were said to number four thousand. Nevertheless Akbar ordered the village to be attacked, himself leading the assault. A desperate hand-to-hand conflict ensued

* E. H. I., V, 144. | † *Ibid.* IV, 416. | ‡ *Ibid.* IV. 433.

lasting several hours, and it was only by setting fire to the village that the dacoits were ultimately overcome.

Akbar's reorganization.

In Akbar's great reorganization of his empire, the tract of country which is now the Mainpuri district was all included in the *subah* of Agra, and divided between the *sarkars* of Agra and Kanauj. These *sarkars* were further subdivided, for revenue purposes, into *mahals*, on each of which a certain fixed sum was assessed and from which a certain contingent of troops was levied. One of these *mahals* was Rapri in the *sarkar* of Agra, mentioned as possessing a brick fort. It comprised the existing parganas of Ghiror, Mustafabad, and Shikohabad, and its cultivated area was 477,201 *bighas*, on which 1,35,08,035 *dams* of revenue were paid. The population consisted mainly of Chauhans, who had to supply a contingent of 200 cavalry and 4,000 infantry to the imperial army. The *mahal* of Etawah, in the same *sarkar*, included the two Mainpuri parganas of Karhal and Barnahal, but what proportion of the total 284,106 *bighas* of cultivation they accounted for there are no means of knowing. The chief castes were Chauhans and Bhadauriya Brahmans, and the whole *mahal* was liable for 1,07,39,325 *dams* and a contingent of 2,000 cavalry and 15,000 infantry. The rest of the district was within the Kanauj *sarkar*. Bhongaon, noted for its fort and a neighbouring "tank called Somnat full of water extremely sweet", paid 45,77,010 *dams* on 3,37,105 *bighas* of cultivation, and could be called upon to furnish 1,000 horsemen and 10,000 foot from its Chauhan population. Alipur Patti, assessed at 11,53,632 *dams* on 38,418 *bighas*, was chiefly inhabited by Rajputs, and their contingent was 20 horse and 500 foot. Sauj, now divided between Karhal and Mainpuri, was the home of the Dhakara clan of Rajputs, evidently a warlike rather than a cultivating race, as, though the area of their *mahal* was 64,070 *bighas*, or nearly twice as great as Alipur Patti, its revenue was only 12,00,000 *dams*, and they were expected to supply 200 cavalry and 3,000 infantry. The *mahal* of Kuraoli 40,445 *bighas* in area, paid 14,09,988 *dams* and furnished 20 horsemen only, and 1,000 foot. The landholders were Rajputs.

Nawabs of Farrukhabad.

Under the rule of Akbar and his successors Jahangir and Shahjahan, Mainpuri and its neighbourhood enjoyed a long

period of quiet, which continued unbroken during the long reign of Aurangzeb (1658—1707), though the rest of the empire was now suffering from the inroads of the Marathas. It was at this time that a house was founded which was destined to play a very important part in the history of the empire and of this part of the Duab. Born about 1665, Muhammad Khan was the son of a Bangash Afghan who had settled a few years before at Mau Rashidabad in what is now the Farrukhabad district. Early in life he took to the profession of arms and was for many years a mercenary freebooter in the service of various Rajas of Bundelkhand. His courage and ability soon gained him a considerable reputation and in 1712 he was recognized as an ally whose favour was worth courting. In that year Bahadur Shah, the successor of Aurangzeb, died, and after a struggle among his sons the throne was secured by Jahandar Shah. But it was soon claimed by his nephew Farrukhsiyar, who, supported by the subahdars of Behar and Allahabad, defeated Jahandar Shah's son Azz-ud-din at Khajuha in the Fatehpur district. After the victory he was joined by Muhammad Khan with 12,000 men and a second battle was fought at Samogar in the Agra district, resulting in the complete success of Farrukhsiyar, who rewarded his latest supporter with various honours and grants of land in Bundelkhand and Farrukhabad. In 1702 he received further advancement and rewards at the hands of Muhammad Shah, and though during the remainder of his long life he experienced various ups and downs of fortune and court favour, at his death in 1743 his possessions were popularly stated to embrace the whole Ganges-Jamna Duab from Koil in the north to Kora in the south, and certainly included practically the entire district of Mainpuri. It was in 1737, a few years before Muhammad Khan's death, that the Maratha inroads first penetrated to this part of the Duab. In that year a large force under Baji Rao, after defeating the raja of Bhadawar, crossed the Jamna near Rapri and laid siege to Shikohabad. The governor, Lalji Khatri, saved the town from destruction by the payment of a large sum of money, and the invaders, after burning the neighbouring towns of Firozabad and Itmadpur, were routed by Burhan-ul-Mulk and driven back with heavy loss across the Jamna.

Ahmad Khan.

In 1748 Muhammad Shah was succeeded by his son Ahmad Shah, who shortly afterwards appointed Safdar Jang, the Subahdar of Oudh, as his wazir. The inroads of Marathas and the invasions of Nadir Shah in 1739 and Ahmad Shah Durrani in 1748 had severely shaken the stability of the central government and given to the provincial governors a dangerous degree of power. One of the most influential of these was Ali Muhammad in Rohilkhand, and the new wazir, who had already quarrelled with him, looked with apprehension on his growing prestige. With Qaim Khan, the son of Muhammad Khan, he had also a hereditary feud, and he determined to set his two enemies at one another's throats, being certain to be himself the gainer whatever the event. Accordingly on the death of Ali Muhammad in 1749, after an abortive attempt to overthrow his successor by other means, an imperial *farman* was issued to Qaim Khan conferring on him the *mahals* of Bareilly and Moradabad wrongfully usurped by Sadullah Khan, the son of Ali Muhammad. Qaim Khan fell into the trap laid for him and set out to the conquest of his new territories with a large force, but at Kadirganj on the Ganges in the Etah district he was defeated by the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan and killed. Safdar Jang at once attempted to seize Farrukhabad and the other Bangash parganas, but Ahmad Khan, the son of Qaim Khan, collected his adherents and in 1750 defeated the Wazir's general Nawal Rae at Khudaganj, and the Wazir himself soon afterwards near Patiali. Had the ambition and enterprise of Ahmad Khan been equal to his personal courage there is little doubt that he might now have pushed on to Delhi and made himself master of the Emperor's person and virtual sovereign. He was, however, far too easy-going in disposition to embark on such a scheme and contented himself with the recovery of his family's former territories and the recognition of his title to them from the Emperor. The administration of the various parganas was given to his brothers and relations, Shikohabad, which included Sakit, Kuraoli and Alikhera, going to Azim Khan, and Bhongaon and Bewar to the Majhle Nawab. Shadi Khan was sent to occupy Kora, but was opposed and defeated by Ali Quli Khan, the deputy in the Allahabad Subah. Ahmad Khan's reluctance

to move was overcome by the insistence of his counsellors and he was persuaded to advance on Allahabad in person. While he was besieging that town the wazir had had time to recover from his defeat and had called in the Marathas to his assistance. The approach of the united armies towards Farrukhabad obliged Ahmad Khan to raise the siege of Allahabad, and after some discussion he decided to return to protect his own home. But the discouragement produced by this retreat proved too much for his mercenaries and they melted away until when he reached Fatehgarh he had too small a force to attempt to do more than hold the fort. After a month's siege a Rohilla army under Sadullah Khan and Bahadur Khan came down to his assistance, but was defeated by the Marathas, and Ahmad Khan then fled through Rohilkhand to Kumaon, where he remained till 1752, when a fresh invasion of India by Ahmad Shah Durrani made Safdar Jang and the Marathas anxious for peace. It was agreed that Rohilkhand and Farrukhabad should be evacuated on condition that Ahmad Khan took over the debt of thirty lakhs of rupees due from Safdar Jang to the Marathas as pay for their services, ceding as security for the debt sixteen and a half of the thirty three *mahals* comprised in his territories. The management of the whole remained in the hands of Ahmad Khan, who paid the surplus revenue, after deducting the cost of management and the pay of the troops, to two Maratha agents stationed at Kanauj and Aliganj. Payments continued to be made till the battle of Panipat in 1761, when the Marathas left Hindustan for a time.

The Marathas.

No list is given of the parganas ceded to the Marathas, but they certainly included Shikohabad, Karhal and Barnahal, for in 1754 these are stated to have been taken from them by Hafiz Rahmat Khan, the Rohilla. In the same year Safdar Jang died and was succeeded by his son Shuja-ud-daula as Nawab of Oudh, while Ghazi-ud-din Imad-ul-Mulk became Wazir. In the meanwhile the Marathas had been recovering their lost ground in the North and in 1759 they invaded Rohilkhand, easily driving Hafiz Rahmat and the Rohillas before them. The latter applied for help to Shuja-ud-daula, who, realizing better than his father where the real danger to the empire lay, marched to their assistance from Oudh and defeated the Marathas in a battle on the

Ganges. The battle of Panipat two years later, in which Ahmad Shah Durrani was supported by both Shuja-ud-daula and the Rohillas, broke the Maratha power and freed Hindustan from them for some years to come. Ahmad Khan recovered his ceded parganas with the exception of Shikohabad and Etawah, the possession of which was confirmed to Hafiz Rahmat.

The English. In 1764 Shuja-ud-daula first came in conflict with the English and was defeated at Buxar, and in the following year he met General Carnac's force near Jajmau and suffered another reverse. Reduced to extremity he threw himself on his enemy's generosity and proceeding almost unattended to the English camp was honourably received. On the arrival of Clive in August a treaty of alliance was entered into. The whole of his former dominions were restored to Shuja-ud-daula with the exception of Kora and Allahabad, which were reserved for the Emperor Shah Alam as a royal demesne, and the English were bound to assist him to the utmost of their ability if he was attacked. On his part the Wazir undertook to pay 50 lakhs of rupees to the English Government, and the Emperor formally assigned to the Company the right of collecting the revenues of Bengal, Behar and Orissa in consideration of an annual payment of 26 lakhs. Clive's object was the maintenance of a friendly buffer state on the border of the English territories as a barrier against the perpetual inroads of the Marathas. But though Shuja-ud-daula was willing enough to co-operate against what he recognized to be the common enemy, the feeble Emperor, who had set his heart on being restored to Delhi, was quite indifferent, and when in 1771 the Marathas, who were now in possession of the capital, opened negotiations with him, he acceded eagerly to all their demands and conditions and in December of that year returned to Delhi as their vassal. The Marathas at once recommenced their incursions into Rohilkhand. The Wazir appealed to the English for help, and a brigade under Sir Robert Barker was despatched into Oudh. After a good deal of intrigue a reciprocal treaty was entered into between the Wazir, the Rohillas and the English for mutual assistance against the Marathas, while the Rohillas bound themselves to pay 40 lakhs of rupees to the Wazir for his services. In 1772 the Marathas, who had

now thrown off all pretence of respect for the Emperor, compelled him to give them a grant of the provinces of Kora and Allahabad which had been assigned to him by the English, and again entered Rohilkhand, but were expelled by Sir Robert Barker's brigade. In the following year it was decided that the Emperor had by his own act surrendered all title to Kora and Allahabad and these districts were accordingly conferred on Shuja-ud-daula. The Duab parganas in the Etawah and Mainpuri districts, formerly acquired by Hafiz Rahmat Khan, had been recovered in 1771 by the Marathas and were still held by their garrisons. The opportunity seemed to the Wazir a favourable one for rounding off his dominions by the addition of this region, so in 1774 he advanced upon Etawah. No opposition was made by the Marathas, who withdrew their troops from the Duab, and from this time forward the Mainpuri parganas continued to form part of the domains of the Nawab Wazir of Oudh, and were with them ceded to the British by the treaty of 1801.

Attack o[n] Shikohabad.

Mainpuri became the headquarters of the civil administration and small cantonments were established there and at Shikohabad. In 1803 the great confederacy of the Marathas under Daulat Rao Sindhia and the Central Indian chiefs assumed such threatening proportions that a simultaneous campaign against them was organized in Northern India and the Deccan, and in August Lord Lake advanced through Kanauj and Mainpuri to attack General Perron at Aligarh. While the British force was engaged at Aligarh a body of 5,000 Maratha horse under M. Fleury, one of General Perron's lieutenants, suddenly appeared before Shikohabad and made a fierce attack on the cantonment, which was commanded by Lt.-Col. Cunningham. The whole force at that officer's disposal consisted of 5 companies of Native Infantry and 1 gun, but the little garrison made so determined a resistance that after an engagement lasting ten hours the enemy was repulsed with heavy loss. Two days later, however, the attack was renewed and after several hours, resistance the British commander, who was himself wounded as well as four of his officers, was obliged to capitulate. The only condition exacted was that the troops should not again be employed against Sindhia during the campaign, and the garrison marched out with

all the honours of war, taking its one gun with it. The Marathas then burnt and pillaged the cantonment. Immediately on receiving the news of the attack on Shikohabad Lord Lake despatched a detachment of cavalry under Col. Macan to its relief, but the enemy, declining an engagement, retired precipitately across the Jamna.

Holkar at Mainpuri.

In November of the following year Holkar, in his flight from Farrukhabad where his army had been surprised and overwhelmed by Lord Lake, passed through Mainpuri, and in revenge for his defeat attacked the cantonment and fired the outlying houses of the English residents. But Captain White with three companies of provincial militia and one gun made good his defence until the arrival of the British cavalry under Captain Skinner, who had been sent in pursuit from Farrukhabad. The enemy then abandoned the attack and continued their flight across the Jamna.

The Mutiny.

At the beginning of 1857, Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Harvey, the Commissioner of the Agra division, was on tour in the Mainpuri district when his attention was drawn to a mysterious distribution of *chapatis* which was being carried on with astonishing rapidity. Nothing could be elicited from their bearers, who appeared to know no more of the purport of the symbols than that on receipt of a cake five more were to be prepared and forwarded without delay to villages further in advance along the line of the Grand Trunk Road where they could be called for. In this manner the cakes travelled often over 160 or 200 miles in a night. Mr. Harvey saw some which had that morning been delivered on the Etawah side of Mainpuri. On the following day he heard of them at the extremity of Etah and Aligarh. Enquiries were made as to the meaning of this mysterious movement, but beyond a conjectural tracing of its source to Bundelkhand or Nagpur and the fact that it was generally acknowleged to be of Hindu origin, the recipients being for the most part Hindus, nothing was discovered. In January the sullen demeanour of the troopers of the 3rd Light Cavalry who formed part of the Commander-in-Chief's escort through Muttra and Bhartpur was noticed and commented on, but these seem to have been the only indications of the coming storm, and they were not heeded at the time.

On the 11th of May a broken telegraphic message announcing the mutiny of the 3rd Cavalry at Meerut reached Agra, and on the following day the tidings arrived at Mainpuri. A consultation was held, and it was decided to send away the women and children to Agra, but only one family actually left. Rao Bhawani Singh, the uncle of the Raja of Mainpuri and claimant to the raj, volunteered to raise a body of Chauhan Thakurs, and with his assistance Mr. John Power, the Magistrate, began to enlist a force with which he hoped to resist any attack by mutinous sepoys. The garrison of Mainpuri consisted of a detachment of the 9th Native Infantry, the remainder of the corps being quartered at Aligarh. Late on the night of the 22nd Rao Bhawani Singh awoke Mr. Cocks, the Commissioner, with the news that the 9th had broken into open mutiny at Aligarh, and murdered their officers, and that they had sent an express to their brethren at Mainpuri bidding them follow their example. Mansur Ali, the tahsildar of Bhongaon, rode in with the same intelligence almost directly afterwards, and warned Mr. Power that the Mainpuri detachment was not to be trusted. Arrangements were at once made for the removal of the ladies and children to Agra, where they arrived safely escorted for the first stage by Mr. James Power, the assistant magistrate, and afterwards by a sowar, Sheikh Amin-ud-din. Messrs. Cocks and Power then proceeded to the house of Lieutenant Crawford, who commanded the station, and it was arranged that the detachment should be taken out of their lines and marched to Bhongaon. Lieutenant DeKantzow was sent on in advance with the main body and Lieutenant Crawford followed him after leaving a small guard at the treasury and quarter-guard. A council was then held at Mr. Power's house, consisting of Rao Bhawani Singh, Mr. Cocks, Dr. Watson, the Revd. Mr. Kellner and the Jail Darogah. The Rao said he could answer for the loyalty of his followers, but could not undertake to assemble them till the evening. The Darogah was convinced that the Jail guard, consisting of 50 well-drilled sepoys, would certainly imitate the conduct of the regular troops.

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By this time it was about four in the morning and the magistrate had only just retired to rest when Lieutenant Crawford galloped in

Mutiny the 9th N. I.

and reported that his men had broken into open mutiny, and, after refusing to obey his orders, had fired at him with their muskets; adding that he believed Lieutenant DeKantzow to have been killed. He gave it as his opinion, when the question was put to him, that nothing more could be attempted and declared his own intention of riding off to Agra. In this opinion Mr. Cocks concurred, and the sepoys now approaching the station, firing off their muskets and shouting, he and Mr. Kellner drove off with Lieutenant Crawford. Mr. Power, however, desperate as was the position, was not the man to despair. He still hoped that Lieutenant DeKantzow might have escaped, as Lieutenant Crawford had not actually seen him fall, and resolved to do what he could to prevent the outbreak from spreading to the city. With this object he proceeded to the bridge over the Isan on the Grand Trunk Road, accompanied by his brother, Mr. James Power, who had just returned from escorting the ladies on the first and most dangerous stage of their journey. At the bridge they were joined by Rao Bhawani Singh with a small force of horse and foot and by Dr. Watson with Sergeants Mitchell, Scott and Montgomery of the Road and Canal departments, and Mr. McGlone, a clerk in the Magistrate's office. Here they took up their position, in the hope of keeping the high road open and of preventing a junction between the mutineers and the bad characters of the city. In the meantime the sepoys had returned to the station, firing into and plundering the houses of Sergeant Montgomery and Dr. Watson as they passed and then breaking open and looting the magazine of the rearguard, from which they carried off all the ammunition. Lieutenant DeKantzow was forced to accompany them as their prisoner, and while the rearguard was being plundered his life was in the greatest danger.

Scene at the treasury.

"The men fired at random," writes Mr. Power in his report of the 25th May," and muskets were levelled at him, but were dashed aside by some of the better disposed, who remembered perhaps, even in that moment of madness, the kind and generous disposition of their brave young officer. Lieutenant DeKantzow stood up before his men; he showed the utmost coolness and presence of mind; he urged them to reflect on the lawlessness of

their acts, and evinced the utmost indifference to his own life, in his zeal to make the sepoys return to their duty. The men turned from the rearguard to the kutcherry, dragging Lieutenant DeKantzow with them. They were met at the treasury by my Jail guard, who were prepared to oppose them and fire on them; but Mr. DeKantzow prevented them from firing, and his order has certainly prevented an immense loss of life. A fearful scene here occurred. The sepoys tried to force open the iron gates of the treasury and were opposed by the Jail guard and some of the Jail officials; the latter rallied round Lieutenant DeKantzow and did their best to assist him; but they, though behaving excellently, were only a band of twenty or thirty (if so many) and poorly armed against the infuriated sepoys, who were well and completely armed, and in full force. It is impossible to describe accurately the continuation of the scene of the disturbance at the treasury. Left by his superior officers, unaided by the presence of any European, jostled with cruel and insulting violence, buffetted by the hands of men who had received innumerable kindnesses from him, and who had obeyed him, but a few hours before, with crawling servility, Lieutenant DeKantzow stood for three dreary hours against the rebels, at the imminent peril of his life. It was not till long after Lieutenant DeKantzow had been thus situated at the treasury, that I learnt of his being there. I was anxious, with all my heart, to help him, but was deterred from going by the urgent advice of Rao Bhawani Singh, who informed me that it was impossible to face the sepoys with the small force at my disposal, and I received at this time a brief note from Lieutenant De Kantzow himself, by a trusty emissary I sent in search of him, desiring me not to come to the treasury, as the sepoys were getting quieter, and that my presence would only make matters worse, as the beasts were yelling for my life. At this time the most signal service was done by Rao Bhawani Singh, who went alone to the rebels, volunteering to use his own influence and persuasion to make them retire. He succeeded ably in his efforts; drew off and then accompanied the rebels to the lines, where, after a space of time, they broke open and looted the bells-of-arms and the quarter guard, carrying off, it is supposed,

Rs. 6,000 in money, and all the arms, etc., they found of use to them. I had returned, with the Europeans with me, to the Raja of Mainpuri's fort on the departure of Rao Bhawani Singh, according to his advice, and shortly after the sepoys left the treasury, Lieutenant DeKantzow joined me, and I again took possession of the kutcherry. I found on my return, the whole of the Malkhana looted, the sepoys having helped themselves to swords, iron-bound sticks, etc., which had accumulated during ages past. The staples of the stout iron doors of the treasury had alone given way but the doors themselves stood firm."

Preparations for defence.

The treasure, which amounted to three lakhs of rupees, was placed in the Raja of Mainpuri's fort, under the charge of Rao Bhawani Singh, and Mr. Power then took up his position in the court-house and prepared to stand a siege. The garrison consisted of the officers who had met at the bridge, with the addition of Lieutenant DeKantzow and Messrs. Donovan and Richards, from the jail and the treasury. The same day (May 23rd) news came in of the outbreak at Fatehgarh, that Etah had fallen, that Etawah had been sacked and that Europeans had been murdered on the Grand Trunk Road. "Without, I hope, being considered an alarmist," reported Mr. Power on the 25th, "I may venture to say our position is not pleasant: but we stand well prepared", and unable, even at such a moment, to resist the temptation to poke fun at the High Court, whose latest circulars on the subject of the weeding of files had evidently not met with his approbation, he continues, "all the Foujdarry (criminal court) records have been taken up to the roof of the kutcherry, and being placed behind its railings form an excellent breast work. This matter had better be reported to the Sudder (the High Court) ; but at the same time it may be mentioned that the Foujdarry record room at Mynpoory has undergone a thorough purification by the purpose to which its contents have been applied. I may also mention, for the Sudder's information, that a good stout Khana Jungee misl (judicial record of a case of affray) prepared after the Sudder's last and most approved fashion, and thickened with false evidence, is an excellent article of defence, and has, by experiment, been found to be bullet proof." Old guns were also collected and

mounted, and other arms were received from Agra, while the defences of the building were further strengthened by the digging of a wide, deep ditch round it. The Zamindars of the district remained loyal, offers of help coming in to the Magistrate from all quarters, and it was in a spirit of the most cheerful resolution that the district officers addressed themselves to the hopeless task of restoring order and preserving some semblance of government. But the position of Mainpuri rendered this impossible. Lying on the highroad to Agra and Delhi, it was the focus on which converged the rebels of the Jhansi division, and of Cawnpore, Farrukhabad and Gwalior, on their way to the great mutineer rendezvous at Delhi. There seems to have been little or no real disaffection in the district or city, and had it not been for these contaminating influences and the defection of the Raja of Mainpuri, the head of the great Chauhan tribe, the district would very probably have remained loyal. Even as it was, the townspeople of Mainpuri, after their European officers had been driven from their posts by the military advance of an armed body of disciplined mutineers, drove off the Jhansi rebels with considerable loss when they attacked the town, and in Shikohabad the Ahirs, formerly the most insubordinate subjects of the Government, attacked and defeated the rebel Raja Tej Singh when his troops came into their pargana. On the 29th May, Major Hayes, Military Secretary to Sir H. Lawrence, and Captain Carey of the 17th N. I., joined the garrison. The former had come by forced marches from Lucknow to be under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, and had under his command three or four troops of an Oudh Irregular Regiment, with Captain Carey, Lieutenant Barbor of the 20th N. I. and Mr. Fayrer, a volunteer. Major Hayes had intended ordering his force to Fatehgarh, whither he had proceeded from Gursahaiganj, but being dissuaded from doing so by Colonel Smith of the 10th N. I. and Mr. Probyn, the Magistrate, at the instance of the troopers of the 10th N. I., had sent orders to Lieutenant Barbor to march to Bhongaon on the 30th May and meet him at Kuraoli on the 31st. The troopers arrived at Bhongaon on the 30th, but their behaviour was so mutinous that Lieutenant Barbor reported them in a letter which was intercepted. On the 31st they broke

out into open mutiny. In the meanwhile, news arrived that they had not marched on the 31st, and Major Hayes wrote to enquire the cause, but received no reply. Late in the afternoon of the 31st, Mansur Ali, the tahsildar of Bhongaon, arrived with a hesitating and confused report of discontent among the troopers on acconnt of the long marches they had made, and a vivid description of the dejected and despondent state of the two young officers at Bhongaon. Major Hayes prepared to go to Bhongaon, but as he was leaving several of his troopers arrived. They reported that the force had halted at Bhongaon as the men were tired, but was then on its way to Sultanganj, the next encamping-ground, to halt there for the night. They brought also a letter from Lieutenant Barbor to Major Hayes. "This letter has always appeared a mystery to me", writes Mr. Power, "it appeared like the continuation of a letter previously despatched, and as if the writer were unable fully to express his meaning. Lieutenant Barbor stated that the men were *then* proceeding in an orderly way to Sooltangunge, and requested Major Hayes not to join the force till the following morning, the 1st June. Major Hayes delayed his departure. I despatched Munsoor Ali to Sooltangunge, which is only five miles from Mynpoory, to ascertain the state of these troopers. Munsoor Ali returned to me after an absence of three hours or so. He reported that the troopers were quiet and contented, but he brought no letter from Lieutenant Barbor. I afterwards learnt, beyond doubt, that Munsoor Ali had never proceeded to Sooltangunge, and that his story was a mere invention. Had he gone there and made enquiries he would have learnt that the troopers had forcibly compelled their officers to accompany them; that a guard was placed over them; and that the party sent to Mynpoory were merely intended to deceive Major Hayes, and decoy him to Kurowlee.

Murder of Major Hayes.

"Major Hayes and Captain Carey left me early on the 1st June to join their force. They found the troopers drawn up on the plain at Kurowlee to receive them. As they approached some native officers rode out to warn them off. They saw their danger and turned to escape, and rode for their lives.

The troopers spread over the plain in pursuit. Major Hayes was overtaken, and receiving a deep sword cut across the face, which penetrated to the brain, fell dead from his horse. Captain Carey, though closely pursued, was enabled to escape, and got safely back to Mynpoory. About the same time that Major Hayes was thus killed the troopers murdered also Lieutenant Barbor and Mr. Fayrer. The bodies of these unfortunate gentlemen (fearfully mutilated) were conveyed to Mynpoory by Lachman Singh, Talookdar of Kurowlee, and were buried by me in the churchyard at Mynpoory. The murder had unquestionably been planned at Lucknow, and Kurowlee selected as a favourable spot for the perpetration of it. After the murder the troopers made off towards Dehli." On the 1st June the garrison was reinforced by seventy troopers of the 1st Gwalior Cavalry under Major Raikes, and some six or eight Sikhs from various disbanded corps, with about ten of the 9th N. I. who had remained loyal. Messrs. Boodrie and Collins were sent from Agra to open a telegraph office, and Mr. Lawrence and Sergeant Swan, who had been hiding from the mutineers, found refuge at the court-house. Mr. Power then proceeded to raise a body of mounted police and succeeded in collecting about a hundred well armed and mounted men, mostly troopers from disbanded regiments of irregular cavalry. This force was placed under the command of Lieutenant DeKantzow and for a time behaved very well. In a sharp action with the 7th Regular Cavalry near Bhongaon they lost several men but were outnumbered and driven back, Lieutenant DeKantzow receiving a severe wound on the head. The rebels then attacked the police station, and though the thanadar ran away the jamadar and several policemen defended their post till they were all killed. Shortly afterwards Sergeant Wills and his wife were wounded by some passing mutineers at the Nabiganj toll-bar, and the former died soon after his removal to Mainpuri.

State of the district.

"In the early part of June", writes Mr. Power, "our position became extremely precarious, as all the surrounding districts broke out into open rebellion and Mynpoory remained the only spot in which authority was upheld. We were hourly kept in anxiety. The worst information reached us from Cawnpore,

Fatehgarh, Lucknow and Jhansi. The Trunk Road swarmed with mutineers proceeding to Delhi, whose spies intrigued about us, and whose picquets reconnoitred our position at Kutcherry. The Thanahs, Tehseelees, Schools, Bungalows and Chowkies along the Etah branch of the Grand Trunk Road were burnt, and all Moostafabad was in rebellion, influenced by the state of the adjoining district of Etah. Every night villages were to be seen burning in all directions around us, and every hour brought notice of some heavy affray having occurred, or the commission of some fearful murder. We had to contend with the treachery of Raja Tej Singh on his return to Mynpoory. We knew that they held nightly meetings in the Fort at Mynpoory, and plotted against us and that their emissaries were sent in all directions to draw some mutineer force to Mynpoory. We momentarily expected an outbreak in the Jail, and I had constantly to hear that the police had been overthrown or had grossly misconducted themselves in different parts of the district. These troubles hourly increased throughout the month of June. *During this trying time, however, nothing could exceed the cheerful energy* with which each gentleman at Mynpoory and the European sergeants and clerks laboured to uphold our position. Major Raikes and Captain Carey were unremitting in their attention to their men, and never left them. Dr. Watson had numerous sick and wounded to attend to, to whom and to ourselves he showed the utmost consideration and kindness. Lieutenant De Kantzow did his best to organise the levies under his charge, and undertook any other work entrusted to him. Mr. J. W. Power had charge of the Jail and of the treasury, and all the miscellaneous work belonging to the office. In addition to this work, all these gentlemen patrolled the station and town in all directions at night, at uncertain hours. They were always accompanied by the sergeants or clerks of the office, whose aid in all matters was of the very greatest advantage to us. The watchfulness thus evinced, and the constant preparation to resist attack, enabled us in fact to keep our position. We were also materially assisted by several faithful Zamindars and by those native officials who remained at their posts.

"Towards the end of June it became manifest that our authority was drawing rapidly to an end. The mounted police were insolent and disobedient. The telegraph was nightly cut. The whole district was influenced by the rebellion then raging on all sides, and all was faithlessness and defection around us. On June the 28th people flocked in from Kurhal and informed us that the Jhansi force had reached that place, and, on the 29th June, the advanced guard of this force had reached Mynpoory itself. The force consisted of the 14th Irregular Cavalry, of the 12th N. I., a large body of other mutinous sepoys, and four or more guns. It was deemed absurd our facing them, owing to the state of feeling then existing in Mynpoory. The Jail broke loose on the morning of the 29th, and this was effected with the aid of Rao Bhawani Singh's men, the Jail guard and Jail officials. Nothing could be more disgraceful than their conduct. The place then swarmed with every description of villains, who with the Collectory Sowars and Mounted Levies commenced plundering our property before our eyes. After consigning the Government treasure to the joint care of the Rajah of Mynpoory and Rao Bhawani Singh, I left Mynpoory in company with Major Raikes and Captain Carey, the Sergeants who had joined me, Mr. McGlone, Mr. Collins and Mr. Boodrie. We were guarded by the troopers of the Gwalior Contingent, but for whose faithful conduct at that time we should not have escaped with our lives. The other officers not above-named proceeded to Agra in advance." The fugitives reached Shikohabad on the morning of the 30th June, and stayed there four days, Mr. Power being reluctant to abandon his district; but urgent orders were received to proceed to Agra, where the services of Major Raikes' Gwalior troop were required. At Firozabad, however, these men, who had hitherto displayed such unshaken loyalty, quietly mutinied, and without attempting to harm their officers, marched off to Gwalior. All the Mainpuri garrison reached Agra in safety except the three clerks, Messrs. Richards, Lawrence and Donovan who remained behind to try and save their property, and were barbarously murdered by the Jhansi mutineers who arrived in Mainpuri on the 30th. This body of rebels plundered and burned all the bungalows in

The district abandoned.

the station and attempted to sack the town, but were beaten off with loss by the better disposed among the inhabitants.

Raja of Mainpuri. The whole district now passed for a time into the hands of the Raja of Mainpuri. In Shikohabad the influence of Prag Datt, the tahsildar who held his charge to the last, kept the pargana loyal, though the rebellion was at its height in all the surrounding districts, and the Ahirs of Bharaul actually defeated the Raja's troops. In Kuraoli too Lachman Singh, the taluqdar, long held the police station and harassed the mutineers on their way through the district by keeping the roadside villages deserted so that no supplies could be obtained. Rao Bhawani Singh, though unable any longer to control his clansmen who followed the lead of the acknowledged head of the Chauhans, succeeded in preserving intact the treasure placed in his charge, and when, on October the 19th, the rebels evacuated Mainpuri before Sir Hope Grant's column, he handed it over to the British general. Grant, however, merely halted for the night at Mainpuri on his way to Cawnpore and the district remained in the power of Raja Tej Singh. He seems to have been a dissipated and incapable youth, but wielded a great influence through his position as chief of the whole Chauhan clan. His claim to the Mainpuri Raj had been disputed by his uncle Bhawani Singh and decided in his favour by the High Court. An appeal against this decision was pending before the Privy Council when the Mutiny broke out. It might have been expected that the official decision would have kept him loyal and driven Bhawani Singh to revolt. But there were other motives at work. The raj had been shorn of three-fourths of its estates by the settlement of 1840, and though a money compensation had been given, the wound caused to the honour of the house by the curtailment of its hereditary dignities still rankled, and, irritated by interested evil counsellors, finally provoked the Raja into taking arms against the Government. Bhawani Singh, on the other hand, once his nephew had cast in his lot with the rebels, had nothing to lose and everything to gain by siding with the British, and did in fact by his steadfast loyalty win both the title and the estates. At the beginning of the insurrection an old feud between the Mainpuri Raj and the Farrukhabad Nawab nearly led to

open war between the two rebel leaders, but after their forces had spent part of July facing one another in Bewar the quarrel was patched up and thenceforward both parties displayed the utmost unanimity in their defiance of the British Government. The Raja offered no opposition to Sir Hope Grant's column on its march through the district in October, but in December, hearing that Brigadier Seaton was coming with a small force from Etah to join General Walpole at Mainpuri, he advanced to Kuraoli with the intention of barring the road. Seaton, however, easily outmanœuvred him, and the rebels fled in disorder, losing eight guns and about a hundred men.

Advent of Hodson

It was after this action that the famous Hodson of Hodson's Horse performed one of the most daring exploits of even his adventurous career. Accompanied by his second-in-command, McDowell, and 75 men, he rode across a countryside swarming with rebels to carry despatches to the Commander-in-Chief. At Bewar he left all his escort but 25 men and with them and McDowell pushed on to Chhibramau, where he learnt that Sir Colin Campbell was not at Gursahaiganj, as had been believed, but at Miran ki Sarai, 15 miles further off. Leaving the 25 native troopers at Chhibramau the two officers rode on alone and reached Sir Colin Campbell's camp in safety, having ridden 55 miles in ten hours without changing horses. On their return the same evening they were warned by a native to whom Hodson had given an alms in the morning that after their departure a party of 2,000 rebels had entered Chhibramau, killed the twenty five troopers left there, and were now waiting for Hodson's return. Hodson never hesitated but boldly continued his journey. When they reached the village he and his companion dismounted and leading their horses along the soft earth at the side of the road passed right through the village unnoticed by the enemy, whose voices could be distinctly heard in the houses on either hand. At Bewar they found a party sent by Seaton, who had heard of the disaster at Chhibramau, and next day marched to that place himself, joining forces there with Brigadier Walpole on the 3rd January and proceeding with him to Fatehgarh.

Resto- tion o- autho-

The district was now reoccupied by the Civil authorities and though it was not by any means brought under complete control

till late in 1858, no other events of any importance took place within its borders. The rebel Raja of Mainpuri, after a vain effort to induce the mutineers in Farrukhabad to re-enter and once more raise the Duab—a scheme which was defeated by Seaton's victory at Kankar in April 1858—engaged in another campaign on his own account. But he met with little success, being repulsed from Shikohabad by the loyal Ahirs, and finally compelled to surrender to Mr. Hume in Etawah.

GAZETTEER

OF

MAINPURI.

DIRECTORY.

GAZETTEER

OF

MAINPURI.

DIRECTORY.

CONTENTS.

AILAU, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 11′ N. and 79° 10′ E., lies six miles south of Bhongaon, 8 miles east of Mainpuri, immediately south of the Nagaria distributary which traverses the village lands. In 1901 the population was 2,080, the principal inhabitants being Thakurs and Brahmans. The village site of *mauza* Gadaipur is included in the site, and there are twelve subsidiary hamlets. The sole proprietor of the village, which constitutes one *mahal*, is the Raja of Mainpuri, who pays Rs. 1,700 land revenue per annum to Government.

AKBARPUR AUNCHA, *Pargana* GHIROR, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

Akbarpur Auncha was till recently the site of a police station, founded here, it is said, to stop the depredations of dacoits and robbers who infested the *dhak* jungle to the north of the site. The police station has been replaced by an outpost, and the circle divided among the neighbouring circles. The village lies 16 miles to the west of Mainpuri town in 27° 20′ N. and 79° 14′ E. and contains a post-office, a bazar and a vernacular school. The population in 1901 numbered 2,390, of whom 1,276 were cultivators, 158 traders, 181 labourers and 71 artisans. The village covers an area of 4,088·49 acres with eight outlying hamlets and yields an annual revenue of Rs. 3,340. The old village mound or *khera* lying north and south for half a mile is about a furlong wide, and contains the present village at its southern extremity. From old remains it seems that an ancient town existed here. Tradition connects the ruined brick and mud fort situated on its highest point with the Emperor Akbar, and thus the name Akbarpur arose. The second half of the name is probably derived from the elevated (*uncha*) nature of the site. Numerous squared blocks of *kankar* masonry, either plain or engraved, have been built into the modern buildings, and old bricks

are everywhere plentiful. Old brick-built wells abound, also remains of stone statuary, many of which latter have been converted into Hindu shrines, on or near the site. The principal shrine is the Rikhi Asthan rebuilt by Chaudhri Jai Chand of Farrukhabad at the time of the settlement of 1873, on the remains of an ancient shrine. The present edifice consists of a platform with steps leading down to a shallow tank, lying close to the *dhak* jungle, a few furlongs to the north-east of the town. There is an inscription under a piece of statuary in Sanskrit, dated 334 *sambat* or A.D. 277, if the *sambat* is the Bikrama *sambat*, which is doubtful. The sculptures are Vaishnavite, representing the incarnations of Vishnu. The old shrine is still intact, being covered with stone slabs, and having an entrance to the west which is blocked up. Chaudhri Jai Chand of Bishangarh in the Farrukhabad district owned at the time this village and the neighbouring village of Achalpur. When he came from Farrukhabad in connection with the settlement he had a bad finger, to cure which he had spent many hundreds of rupees, and he made a vow that he would rebuild the shrine if it were healed. In a few days the finger became well, and the vow was fulfilled. During the building the Chaudhri intended to open the old shrine, but was warned in a dream not to do so, nor to disturb the trees by the shrine, the tank, or the adjacent jungle. On a previous occasion he cut down some of the jungle, but ceased when his horses and elephants died. The succeeding owner, Gaya Parshad, Khattri of Cawnpore, also made a similar attempt, but desisted when his son died. His nephew, Gopi Narayan of Cawnpore, is now in possession, and neither he nor any one else has since made any attempt to open up the shrine. A fair is held at the shrine every year on *Chait nomi sudi* (March). There are two market days in the week on which trade in grain and tobacco is carried on.

ALIPUR PATTI AND ALI KHERA, *Pargana* ALIPUR PATTI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

These two large connected villages lie in 27° 20′ N. and 79° 14′ E. about nine miles to the north-east of Mainpuri town. In 1901 the population of Alipur Patti was 2,116 and that of Ali Khera 2,492. There is a fair market here for hides and blankets, and

leather buckets are manufactured for irrigation purposes. Ali Khera contains a post-office and a shop for the sale of liquor and drugs, and there is a village school at Alipur Patti. A weekly market is held in the village every Thursday. The hereditary *zamindars* of Alipur Patti are Sanadh Brahmans, while Ali Khera is owned by a Kayasth family of Shamsabad East in Farrukhabad. Most of the land is held in occupancy tenure, and there is a good deal of resumed *muafi* held by Musalmans, but the principal cultivating castes are Brahmans, Kachhis, Chamars and Lodhas. In addition to the two main villages there are six *naglas* or hamlets scattered round it. A partially metalled road connects the village with Chhachha on the Grand Trunk Road, and thence with Bhongaon, and another but unmetalled road leads to the Mota railway station.

ALIPUR PATTI *Pargana.*

Alipur Patti is the smallest of the four parganas which make up the Bhongaon tahsil and the smallest in the whole district. On its north side it is separated by the Kali Nadi from pargana Aliganj in the Etah district, and on the west, south and east it is enveloped by pargana Bhongaon. It consists of four main tracts: (1) the Kali Nadi *tarai*, which is of a fluctuating character, capable of a high degree of fertility in a series of favourable dry seasons, but liable to saturation after continuous flooding. It appears to have been highly cultivated and productive till about 1873, but shortly afterwards much of it was thrown out of cultivation owing to an excessive rainfall and inundation. Assessments were reduced and in 1891 the settlement had to be revised on this account. (2) The second tract is upland *bhur* varying from sand hills to level plain; (3) next comes a sandy loam tract; and (4) south of this a stretch of real loam with *usar* and underlying clay soils. The *bhur* tract also underwent considerable deterioration between 1875 and 1891, *kans* grass becoming very prevalent. In a few years over 3,000 acres went out of cultivation from this cause, but there has been a recovery since.

The area of the pargana is only 30·37 square miles or 19,441 acres distributed among 26 villages with 52 *mahals*, of which

one village, Alipur Patti *khas*, has 24. The total population in 1901 was 16,153, being 538 to the square mile of area and 850 to the square mile of cultivation. The cultivated area is 12,318 acres, a decrease of 1,234 acres since the last settlement, the reasons for which have already been given. Of the rest 493 acres are under groves, 3,343 acres are culturable (fallow and waste) and 3,287 acres are incapable of cultivation from one cause or another. No less than 9,165 acres or almost three-quarters of the cultivated area are irrigable, the new Bewar branch canal, constructed in 1880, now accounting for 5,494 acres of this. In ordinary years about 44 per cent. of the cultivated area is irrigated, a figure somewhat below the district average. At the 1873 settlement, however, the irrigable area was recorded as 8,012 acres, so that a good deal of this canal irrigation has merely replaced a previous well-supply. In the southern half of the pargana the well-capacity is good and water is found at no great depth from the surface, but in the *bhur* tract only percolation wells are possible, and here the canal is invaluable. The river is used to a small extent for irrigation, and on the border of its *tarai dhenkli* wells are common. Wheat, alone or in combination, forms the chief *rabi* crop, while the *kharif* consists for the most part of *juar* with *arhar* and maize. There has been some increase in the area under poppy since last settlement, as also in that under wheat, both being due to the introduction of the canal. Indigo has nearly disappeared and cotton has fallen off in area, while the practice of double-cropping has increased. The area cultivated by Lodhas, Thakurs and Ahirs appears to have diminished since the last settlement, Brahmans now taking the first place; but Thakurs and Ahirs still cultivate a fair proportion of the soil at low rents, the rest being mainly in the hands of Lodhas, Chamars, and Kachhis. There are few grain rents left, lump rents on mixed holdings being the rule. Seventy per cent. of the cash rent holdings are held by occupancy tenants and only thirty per cent. by non-occupancy tenants. The area held as *sir* and *khudkasht* has decreased since the 1873 settlement, but there has been an increase in that held rent-free. The Settlement Officer's standard rates vary from Rs. 10-8-0 per acre on irrigated *gauhan* to 12 annas on the worst quality of

unirrigated *bhur*, these rates representing the rates of occupancy tenants of over 20 years standing. The revenue assessed is now Rs. 21,176 as compared with Rs. 21,890 at the previous settlement and an expiring demand of Rs. 18,141. Ten thousand five hundred and thirty-four acres, or more than half the cultivated area, are owned by village communities of Thakurs and Brahmans, and of the rest 7,164 acres are owned in single *zamindari*. The principal proprietors are the Banias of *mauza* Chhachha, the Kayasths of Ali Khera, and the Muhammadans owning Rajwana and other property. The Brahmans hold Alipur Patti *khas* and shares in other villages, and practically all the remainder is held by Thakurs. The Birch family, which at one time held most of the pargana, has now disappeared. The founder of it was originally an officer in Sindhia's service and a shrewd man of business, who became a successful indigo planter. But with his death the fortunes of the family declined, and the only traces of it that now survive are a few tomb-stones in Mainpuri and the ruins of a house at Alipur Patti.

There are no towns in the pargana and no good roads.

ALLAHABAD, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, named also Ilahabans, lies in 27° 9′ N. and 79° 17′ E., eight miles distant from Bhongaon to the south-east, and had, in 1901, a population of 3,024. The area of the village is 2,978 acres and it pays Rs. 4,100 in revenue. There are 19 hamlets. The *zamindar* is Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan of Shamsabad, district Farrukhabad, and most of the cultivators are occupancy tenants. The inhabitants are, for the most part, Mahajans, Marwaris, Brahmans, Kunjras, Faqirs, Chamars, and Kahars, and though the great majority of them are engaged in agriculture a small proportion do some business as shopkeepers in the bazar, where a market is held twice a week, on Thursdays and Sundays. The village contains a school, a post-office, and a shop for the sale of liquor and drugs, and a little way off to the east there is the tomb of a Musalman saint of considerable local celebrity to which both Hindus and Musalmans repair after the Thursday market with prayers and offerings. The tomb is especially frequented by women on these occasions.

ANGAUTHA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This large village, in 27° 10′ N. and 79° 5′ E., lies six miles south-east of Mainpuri town. The village lands cover a total area of 4,681·84 acres, of which 1,983 acres are cultivated, nearly one-fourth of the cultivation being irrigated from the canal. There are 15 hamlets. The village consists of one *mahal* belonging to Mt. Ram Piari, a Khattri of Cawnpore, and pays Government revenue to the amount of Rs. 5,500. The population in 1901 numbered 2,516 persons, of whom 15 were *zamindars*, 1,791 cultivators, and 222 labourers. There is a vernacular school in the village.

ARAON, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 27° 2′ N. and 78° 47′ E., lies about two miles from the railway station of the same name on the Shikohabad-Farrukhabad branch of the East Indian Railway. It is situated on the Agra road about seven miles from Sirsaganj, eight from Shikohabad and 24 from Mainpuri. The population in 1901 numbered 1,430, distributed over four hamlets in addition to the main site, and the area at survey was 2,580 acres. The site of the village is an old *khera*, to the north of which flows the river Sengar, crossed by a bridge on the Mainpuri road. The *zamindars* are Sanadh Brahmans, and the cultivators Lodhas, Ahirs, Brahmans and Chamars. The form of land-tenure is *pattidari*, and the seven *mahals* of which the village consists are assessed at Rs. 3,240 for purposes of land revenue. A fair in honour of *Debi* is held here in the months of *Chait* and *Kuar* every year. A village school and a small bazar are to be found here, and close to the bazar is an encamping-ground for troops, where lie buried two soldiers of the 2nd Field Battery, who were drowned in a tank at Bharaul while shooting there in 1891.

AUNG, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 10′ N. and 79° 15′ E., is about six miles to the south-east of Bhongaon. It contains 22 hamlets and a total population of 3,000. The village covers an area of 3,161 acres, is irrigated by a canal minor and pays Rs. 4,000 in land revenue. The *zamindars* are Thakurs and most of their tenants

have occupancy rights. The village is a very old one, containing two temples of some antiquity, and an annual fair in honour of *Debi* is held in it in the month of *Chait*. It is unconnected by anything but rough cart tracks with the rest of the district.

AURANDH, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 21′ N. and 79′ 14′ E., lies two miles north of Sultanganj and ten from Mainpuri. The population in 1901 was 2,400, spread over the main village and eight subsidiary hamlets. The principal residents are Brahmans and Thakurs. The village constitutes one *mahal* owned by Thakur Het Singh and assessed to Rs. 3,700 land revenue. There is a fairly large tank to the west of the main site and a village school.

AUREN PANRARIA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This considerable village, in 27° 14′ N. and 79° 4′ E., lies on the Mainpuri-Etawah road two miles to the south of Mainpuri town. Consisting of nine *mahals* and eleven hamlets, it covers a total area of 4,615 acres, of which 1,592 acres are under cultivation. Nearly all the cultivated area is irrigated from the Nagaria distributary which passes through the village. The *zamindars* are Chauhan Rajputs, and the annual revenue is Rs. 3,207. In 1901 the inhabitants numbered 2,879, of whom 509 were *zamindars*, 1,598 cultivators and 252 labourers. The village is a recruiting ground for Rajputs of the 8th Bengal Cavalry. There is a vernacular school in the village.

BARAGAON, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 15′ 3″ N. and 78° 44′ 42″ E., distant 23 miles west from Mainpuri and three miles east of Jasrana, lies in pargana Mustafabad. It is a principal station of the Great Trigonometrical Survey, and the lower or ground-mark stone lies on a mound within the village, a foot below the crest, and is surmounted by a tower 45 feet 2 inches high and about 14 feet square at the top, with a hollow core and a gallery at the bottom for reference to the station-mark, which shows 573·30 feet above the level of the sea. In 1901 the population, contained in four hamlets besides the main site, numbered 1,844 souls, of whom 139 were

zamindars, 874 cultivators and 230 labourers. The village consists of four *mahals*, covering a total area of 2,575 acres, out of which 1,212 acres are under cultivation. There is a vernacular school in the village.

BARNAHAL, *Pargana* BARNAHAL, *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 5′ N. and 78° 55′ E., is distant 20 miles south from Mainpuri and 10 miles west from Karhal. It has a population of 2,461 souls spread over five hamlets besides the main site and an area of 1,571 acres and pays a land revenue of Rs. 3,450. The village is owned by the Raja of Tirwa in Farrukhabad (now under the Court of Wards), and most of the tenants have occupancy rights. Located here are a village post-office, a *halqabandi* school and a cattle-pound. Markets are held every week on Monday and Friday and an annual fair on the day of the *Ram Naumi*. Barnahal now gives its name to the old pargana of Bibamau, formerly known as Dehli-Jakhan. Dehli is a corruption of Dihuli, a village four miles to the south of Barnahal.

BARNAHAL *Pargana.*

Pargana Barnahal, one of the two parganas forming the Karhal tahsil, is bounded on the north by pargana Ghiror; on the west by Shikohabad; on the south by pargana Etawah of the Etawah district; and on the east by pargana Karhal. Its area is 91·68 square miles or 58,607 acres, and it contains 107 *mauzas*. With the exception of 20 villages situated to the north and north-east, the whole pargana lies to the south of the Sengar. The villages to the north of this river assimilate in their soil to the loam of Ghiror and Karhal, with occasional tracts of *usar*, while to the south of it the soil resembles that found in Shikohabad and contains much more silica in its composition. The drainage too is more rapid, *jhils* are of rarer occurrence and the proportion of *usar* to the total area is smaller. High tracts of sand occur in belts parallel to the course of the Sengar and near its banks, and in these the soil is poor and the surface uneven and often broken up by ravines. The prevailing soil is a light rich yellow loam, forming a sort of mean between pure loam and sand, and natur-

ally little inferior to loam, over which it has, indeed, the advantage of being comparatively free from *usar*. The Sengar, though a fair-sized river containing more or less water throughout the year, is not of much service to the cultivator. Its *tarai* is poor and sandy, its alluvial deposits infertile, and the depth of its channel renders it useless for irrigation. The Aganga, which flows through the southern corner of the pargana and joins the Sengar in the Etawah district, is little more than a drainage *nala*, drying up immediately after the rains and hence of no practical importance. Canal irrigation from the Etawah branch of the Lower Ganges Canal reaches only the strip of country to the north of the Sengar, and wells, therefore, mostly unlined are the main source of the water-supply. The spring is almost invariably reached even by earthen wells, except in the high sandy tracts along the Sengar. There has, however, been some deterioration in this respect latterly owing to the recent cycle of dry years. There is only one really important *jhil*—that at Saj Hajipur—but there are minor ones at Chandikra, Keshopur, Pairar-Shahpur and Nitaoli. The cultivated area is 35,895 acres as compared with 35,428 acres at the previous settlement. Seven thousand two hundred and forty-eight acres are recorded as culturable (fallow and waste) and 14,194 acres as incapable of cultivation. The comparative figures at the previous settlement were 5,108 and 15,470, respectively, the differences being probably due to the more exact measurements of the recent survey carried out by professional agency. Groves cover 1,270 acres, an area only 94 acres less than that which they occupied in 1873. The irrigable area is 31,956 acres as compared with 31,042 acres recorded at the last settlement. Of this 4,919 acres (north of the Sengar) are irrigated from the canal, 26,115 acres from wells and 922 from other sources. The irrigated area in a normal year is well above half the cultivated area and is over the district average. Of the wells 298 are masonry, 247 half masonry, and 3,751 are earthen wells. The pargana is practically an earthen well tract. The principal *rabi* crops are wheat and barley, alone and in combination with gram and poppy, while the *kharif* harvest consists for the most part of maize, cotton, *juar* and *bajra*, the last three being almost invariably grown in combination with *arhar*. Since the last settlement there has

been an increase in the double-cropped area, and also in that under poppy and garden-crops, maize, cotton mixed with *arhar*, and mixed crops generally. Sugar-cane has declined, as have also wheat and *bajra*.

The principal cultivating castes, in order of importance, are Ahirs, Brahmans, Thakurs and Kachhis. The occupancy area, 61·76 per cent. of the whole, shows a considerable increase, though both *sir* and *khudkasht* have fallen off. The average size of occupancy holdings has diminished, though not to the same extent as that of non-occupancy ones, and the average incidence of non-occupancy rents has risen 68 per cent. in the last 80 years, being now Rs. 6·20 per acre, while that of occupancy rents now stands at Rs. 4·94 per acre, a rise of 16 per cent. Lump rents on mixed soil holdings prevail.

The present revenue demand is Rs. 93,631, and that of the previous settlement was Rs. 89,650. There has thus been an increase of 4·44 per cent. The first settlement (1210—1212 *Fasli*) fixed the demand at Rs. 99,223; the second (1213—1215 *Fasli*) at Rs. 1,00,126; the third (1216—1219 *Fasli*) at Rs. 1,01,825; while the average of five years preceding Mr. Gubbins' settlement in 1839 was Rs. 1,02,756. In the first year of Mr. Gubbins' settlement the demand was Rs. 87,457, in the second Rs. 88,430, in the third Rs. 88,713, and at the expiration of the settlement it had fallen to Rs. 81,980. Notwithstanding the severity of the demand during the early settlements the collections were easily realized up to 1834, when over Rs. 10,000 were outstanding, while in 1839 considerably over a lakh and a half remained uncollected. From that year onwards no difficulty was experienced in getting in the reduced revenue, and in 1871 Mr. McConaghey once more raised the demand to Rs. 89,310.

This pargana is a purely rural tract with a population of 43,767 in 1901 as compared with 42,593 in 1872. This and the neighbouring pargana of Karhal were the only ones in the district which lost no population between 1881 and 1891, though there was a decline during the next decade. With excellent surface drainage, and irrigation mainly derived from earthen wells, it is better adapted to stand wet than dry seasons. There are no towns, Barnahal itself being a mere village, with several sites

approached only by village tracks. The new Shikohabad-Farrukhabad railway just touches the extreme north-west corner, and the only two roads, one from Karhal to Sirsaganj and the other from Ghiror to Karhal, are both unmetalled. The pargana is therefore very badly off for communications. Co-parcenary communities hold roughly one half the pargana, but both they and joint *zamindari* have been losing since last settlement. Brahmans hold 26,075 acres, a gain of 4,580 acres since 1873, and Thakurs, chiefly Chauhan, Bais and Baghel, hold 19,950 acres, having lost 6,021 acres during the same period. Ahirs come next, and after them Musalmans, Banias and Mahajans.

BASAIT, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° N. and 79° 20′ E., lies two miles south-east of Kishni. Its population in 1901 was 2,636, spread over the main village and 11 subsidiary hamlets. The main castes are Brahmans and Kachhis. It is one *mahal* owned by the Thakur of Saman as manager of the Ram Chandra temple and assessed to Rs. 4,700 land revenue. A large and important *jhil* which holds water for the greater part of the winter adjoins the northern edge of the main site. A village bank under the presidency of the *zamindar* is located here.

BEWAR, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BEWAR.

This village, in 27° 14′ N. and 79° 21′ E., lies on the Grand Trunk Road at the point where it is crossed by the Etawah-Farrukhabad road, 17 miles east of Mainpuri. It has a fair bazar containing a number of shops for the sale of cloth, grain and sweetmeats, which do a considerable amount of trade. There is a police station in the town as well as village schools for both boys and girls, a canal bungalow, a military encamping-ground, a cattle-pound, a post-office, and shops for the sale of country liquor and drugs. The village comprises six hamlets and three *mahals* covering an area of 2,325 acres and paying land revenue to the amount of Rs. 1,915. The *zamindars* are chiefly Brahmans and Kayasths, and the cultivators, who are of various castes, are principally occupancy tenants. The name, which is locally

pronounced *Berwar*, is said to be derived from the *ber* shrub which is common in the neighbouring jungles.

BEWAR *Pargana.*

Pargana Bewar in the Bhongaon tahsil lies south of the Kali Nadi opposite to pargana Shamsabad in the Farrukhabad district. It has pargana Kishni as its boundary on the east, and pargana Bhongaon on the south and west. Its total area is 27,704 acres or 43·29 square miles, of which 2,890 acres are nonculturable, 903 acres are planted with groves, 5,034 acres are culturable (waste or fallow) and 15,877 acres are now under cultivation. In 1873 only 11,324 acres were cultivated, and in 1890-91 when, owing to deterioration, a revision of settlement was undertaken, the cultivated area was only 12,893 acres. In the settlement report of 1873 this pargana was described as "decidedly the worst in the district. It is situated in the northern portion of the Kali Nadi and Isan duab, and contains a large percentage of wretched sandy soil covered with *kans* grass and almost entirely devoid of irrigation." The opening of the Bewar canal has made an immense difference, but the pargana has been very susceptible to variations in climatic conditions in the past, and parts of it may still be looked upon as precarious. The alluvial belt along the Kali Nadi here deteriorates into a stretch of sandy soil, and there is little of the good loam met with beside that river in other parganas. In fact real loam is found only in a small patch in the south-eastern corner. Except for this and the Kali Nadi *tarai* the pargana consists of *bhur* and light loam, *bhur* preponderating. Much of the latter, especially the sand hills following the course of the Kali Nadi, is hardly fit for cultivation. *Jhils* and *tals* are rarely met with, the only considerable one being at Paraunkha in the south-east in the loam tract and two at Nagla Penth and Bajhera. Until 1880 the facilities for irrigation were scanty, the general character of the earthen wells being inferior, as in comparatively few of them can the true spring be reached, while in many the supply from percolation is so deficient that bullocks cannot be worked with profit. The subsoil is as a rule so indifferent, and in the worst sandy tracts is so bad, that even masonry wells cannot be sunk

with success. However, in 1881-82 the Bewar branch canal was opened, and, though closed for a few years after the Nadrai aqueduct disaster in 1885, has since been working regularly and has effected a great improvement in the character of the pargana, so far as its influence extends. The irrigable area, which in 1840 was 5,291 acres and 9,775 acres in 1873, now amounts to 13,142 acres, though the real benefit conferred by the canal is, of course, very much greater than these figures show. The actual irrigated area in any ordinary year is 42 per cent. of the cultivated area, or considerably below the district average. The figure, however, is a high one for these provinces. The principal *rabi* crop is wheat, which, either alone or in combination with other crops, occupies half the *rabi* area, which is now larger by 50 per cent. than the *kharif* area. The latter harvest consists chiefly of maize and *juar* or *bajra* with *arhar*. Since the last settlement the area under wheat and poppy has increased considerably, and that under maize, cotton, potatoes, tobacco and garden crops to a less extent, and as elsewhere in the district there is a tendency towards double-cropping after maize and mixed crops.

In regard to rents the general rule is lump rents on composite holdings of mixed soils. Privileged rents as such do not prevail. There is, however, a comparatively large area under grain rents apart from those met with in fluctuating soils. Here the system, encouraged chiefly by Bais Thakur landholders, is merely a convenient arrangement for securing to the proprietors a stock of grain. The occupancy holding area, though less than in adjoining parganas, is still roughly one-half of the total holdings area, and represents almost the whole of the tenants' area. The standard circle rates sanctioned at the recent settlement varied from Rs. 9·19 in irrigated *gauhan* to Re. ·66 for the lowest quality of unirrigated *bhur*.

The first assessment of the pargana as constituted in 1802-03, when it formed part of the Farrukhabad district, amounted to Rs. 11,867, which was left unchanged till the third settlement, when it was raised to Rs. 15,968, eventually rising to Rs. 17,693 before 1836. In that year the demand was raised to Rs. 19,824 including two resumed *muafi* plots, but was again reduced in 1845-46 to Rs. 14,347, gradually rising to Rs. 16,826 in 1850-51.

Nine villages were then added to it, and the revenue for the whole pargana as it now stands was in 1868-69 Rs. 19,307. At the last settlement the demand was raised to Rs. 24,940, but again reduced in 1890-91. The revenue now declared is Rs. 26,060.

The principal castes to which cultivators belong are Thakurs, Ahirs, Kachhis, Brahmans, and Chamars. The largest area is held by Thakurs and Ahirs, the least industrious and skilful of all farmers. Thakurs hold practically all the *sir* and their rents in general are low, mainly owing to relationship to the proprietors. Ahirs also hold at low rents, but this is because they are as a rule settled in poor villages.

The present population is 21,943, an increase of 21·64 per cent. since last settlement, and of 35·94 per cent. between 1891 and 1901. The density is 510 to every square mile of total area, and 757 to every square mile of the cultivated area. This increase is entirely confined to the agricultural portion of the population, and it illustrates the precarious character of the pargana and the improvements effected by the canal. There is no town in the pargana, Bewar *khas* being the nearest approach to one, with a population of 4,209 and a fairly large and important bazar. The railway passes through the north-west corner of the pargana and a road may some day be constructed from Bewar *khas* to Mota Station. The village is otherwise well situated in respect of communications, lying at the point of intersection of the Etawah-Farrukhabad and Grand Trunk roads. An unmetalled road connects the station at Dayanatnagar Mota with Alipur Patti and the Grand Trunk Road. Except on these two metalled roads communications are difficult, especially along the sandy Kali Nadi tract.

The hereditary *zamindars* are the Bais Thakurs, descendants of those who originally colonized the pargana, and of whom 28 recognizable branches now survive, the two main ones being those of Saidpur and Rampur. Other important branches are those owning Bajhera and Chilaunsa. These Thakurs are now for the most part in possession of minute shares averaging only 12 acres. The Raja of Tirwa, a Baghela Thakur, holds the large village of Paraunkha. The property now in the possession of the Kayasths of Bewar, the descendants of the old Kanungo families, is practically

restricted to a part of Bewar *khas*. The money-lending castes have not yet secured any great hold of the pargana, but the Brahmans, though isolated, are increasing their possessions.

The only historical interest of the pargana centres in the village Paraunkha, on account of the adventure there of the Emperor Akbar, which has been described in Chapter V.

BHADAN, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 26° 59′ N. and 78° 50′ E., lies at a distance of about two miles from the railway station of the same name on the East Indian Railway, and some 13 miles from Shikohabad. It is a *pattidari* village with an area of 3,259 acres, 18 hamlets, and a population of 3,122, and pays Rs. 5,200 in land revenue. The *zamindars* are Dhakara Thakurs, and the cultivators Thakurs, Ahirs and Lodhas. The village includes 18 hamlets and contains a village school and a branch post-office. A market is held here every Tuesday and Friday and a fair in the month of *Chait* during the *Holi* festival.

BHADANA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 24′ N. and 78° 36′ E., lies 38 miles to the west of Mainpuri and 14 miles north-west of Jasrana. It covers a total area of 2,563 acres, of which 1,678 acres are cultivated, a little more than one-third of the cultivated area being irrigated from the canal. There are nine outlying hamlets. There is one *mahal* yielding Rs. 4,380 a year in revenue to Government. In 1901 the population numbered 2,605 souls, of whom 127 were *zamindars*, 1,312 cultivators and 224 labourers. The *zamindars* are Thakurs and Ahirs. There is a vernacular school in the village.

BHANWAT, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 9′ N. and 79° 7′ E., lies some six miles south of Mainpuri on the unmetalled road to Saman and had, in 1901, a population of 2,112 persons. The area of the village is 3,145 acres with 11 hamlets and it pays Rs. 3,500 in land revenue. The *zamindars* are chiefly Thakurs, Brahmans and Kayasths, and the cultivators consist for the most part of Ahirs

and Lodhas. The village is situated on a high mound or *khera* with a big *jhil* to the north-east of it, and contains a large ruined building formerly the property of an old Thakur family. The Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal passes the southern corner of this village and there is a canal bungalow close to the bridge. The village contains a cattle-pound and a shop for the sale of liquor and drugs.

BHARAUL, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 27° 11′ N. and 78° 48′ E., is situated on the Agra-Mainpuri road, 10 miles from Shikohabad and 20 miles from Mainpuri. It is a *pattidari* village with five inhabited sites containing a population, according to the last census, of 2,245 inhabitants. The total area is 2,147 acres and the land revenue Rs. 3,900. The principal castes are Ahirs, Lodhas. Brahmans, Kayasths and Chamars. The village possesses a school and a post-office, and a market is held in the bazar every Wednesday and Saturday. It was here that in 1857 the Ahirs had a desperate fight with the rebel Raja of Mainpuri, in which Indrajit, the brother of Karan Singh, lost his life. On the restoration of order proprietary rights in one and a half villages were conferred upon the family, which now owns several villages. Its present head is Chaudhri Sarnam Singh, a man of great influence and position.

BHONGAON, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This town, in 27° 17′ N. and 79° 14′ E., is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name and lies at the junction of the Agra road with the Grand Trunk Road about nine miles to the east of Mainpuri. The alternative spellings of the name are Bhuingaon and Bhogaon, the latter being however a misspelling. The population of the town according to the census of 1901 is 5,582, of whom 2,915 are males and 2,667 females. Classified according to religions there are 3,687 Hindus, 1,776 Musalmans and 119 others. The town is a very old one and includes the sites of three villages—Bhongaon, Mahabatpur and Ahmadpur. The Grand Trunk Road passes right through the town, dividing it into two unequal parts, the larger of which is on the north, while the

tahsil with its buildings is situated to the south. Shops line both sides of the road, and with its railway station, Public Works Department rest house, police station, hospital, cattle-pound, *sarai*, post-office, upper primary school, and liquor and drugs shops, Bhongaon may fairly be classified as a town. Act XX of 1856 is in force and the sanitation is attended to under its provisions, a good deal having recently been done by filling up and levelling insanitary hollows and uneven ground. The town site is long and narrow and somewhat raised above the level of the surrounding country, especially towards the south where the surface dips down to form an extensive *jhil*. The central road is well kept and clean, and from it turns off the winding lane which runs through and past the old bazar. The houses generally are built of mud and the few brick-built ones that exist are so scattered as to be scarcely noticeable. To the west of the town, near the point where the Grand Trunk and Agra roads meet, is the *sarai*, a good sized enclosure with its mud buildings, little used now that the railway has taken the place of the Grand Trunk Road. The temple of Mahadeo, built for Dwarka Das, a Saraogi Bania, stands near the *sarai* but a little removed from the road and contains rooms for the free accommodation of poor travellers, who also receive a daily dole of grain. Between the temple and the tahsil is situated the police station, facing the tahsil buildings. The *parao*, or halting-place for carts, is adjacent to the tahsil, and next to it is the school building cooped up in a small enclosure. Behind the school the surface slopes down to the great *jhil*, and to the east of it starts the long bazar. A mosque and a small temple with a a very high steeple crown a mound in the centre of the town close to the Grand Trunk Road.

The whole town site, where not interfered with by excavations, drains into the *jhil*, which in its turn, when full to overflowing, drains by a *nala* into the Isan Nadi three miles to the south of the town. The area of the town lands is 1,370 acres, assessed at Rs. 2,393 for land revenue. The form of tenure is the *pattidari*, Thakurs, Brahmans and Kayasths being the principal *zamindars*. There is no special trade done in the town, though a certain amount of business is carried on in

tobacco and the chief food grains. A small bazar has lately been established near the temple mentioned above.

BHONGAON *Pargana.*

Bhongaon, the largest of the four parganas which make up the tahsil of that name, stretches from the Kali Nadi, which separates it on the north from pargana Aliganj in the Etah district, along the whole length of the east of the tahsil to pargana Karhal on the south. It is bounded on the north-west by Alipur Patti, on the west by parganas Mainpuri and Kuraoli, and by pargana Kishni on the east.

Its physical features are varied, and it has been described as "made up of stray pieces of the adjacent parganas, the meeting-place of all surrounding varieties of soils . . . . Every class of soil, every quality of cultivation, every caste of cultivator, every kind of tenure and all the varieties of irrigation are found within it." The pargana is drained by the Kali Nadi on the north, the Isan in the centre and the Arind in the south. Along the Kali Nadi there is an alluvial belt, which rapidly gives way to a sandy soil. Midway between the Kali and Isan there is a considerable wedge of loam, which, as it approaches the Isan and gets within the influence of its drainage action, deteriorates into sand. Sand ridges are found on both sides of the river, and beyond these to the south there is the great loam tract.

The Kali Nadi tract consists of lowlying lands rising abruptly into sandy ridges, with occasional strips of loam intervening. In 1873 this tract seems to have been in a high state of fertility, but it subsequently suffered from heavy rains and floods, and in 1877 the Settlement Officer revised his assessment, reducing it by Rs. 6,850 for five years. There was however no improvement, and in 1885 the whole region was devastated by the great flood from the broken Nadrai aqueduct, which led to another revision in 1891-92. Since then there has been a slow recovery, assisted by a cycle of dry years, but in several villages the damage seems to be permanent. The *bhur* tract was remarkable in this as in other parganas of the tahsil for the prevalence of *kans* grass during the eighties, and the

outbreak was aggravated by the heavy rainfall at the end of the period. The revision of 1891-92 afforded relief here also, and there has been considerable improvement since. No villages are now seriously affected, but the tract must be considered precarious. The principal *jhils* are at Airwa, Asauli, Kinawar, Bhanwat, Rui, Bilon, Aurandh, Manchhana, Chitain, Dalippur Naraini, Pundri and Patna Tilua.

The total area of the pargana is 174,683 acres, of which 96,345 acres (as compared with 98,382 at the last settlement) were cultivated in the year of record. Of the cultivated area 77,984 acres were reckoned as irrigable (as against 57,557 at the previous settlement), 39,902 from canals, 26,221 from wells, and 11,861 from other sources. At the last settlement the canal only commanded 14,876 acres, while wells accounted for 38,054. As a rule only a little more than half the cultivated area is irrigated in the year, or about the same percentage as for the whole district. The culturable area (waste and fallow) at the recent settlement was 25,855 acres, 4,000 acres in excess of the previous estimate; 4,069 acres were under groves and 48,405 acres were found to be incapable of cultivation. At the last settlement cultivation was found to have increased by 29 per cent. since 1840, and irrigation by 44 per cent.

The increase in irrigation is almost entirely confined to the *bhur* tract, and is due to the opening of the new Bewar Canal. Distributaries of the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal also serve the pargana, but their rearrangement has caused a deficiency in places. Masonry wells have increased from 908 to 1,008 during the last thirty years, and though the area irrigated from wells has slightly fallen off in the period, the loss has been more than made up by the large increase in canal irrigation. There has been a slight rise in the number of ploughs and plough-cattle, though other cattle have decreased in number, probably owing to the substitution of canal for well irrigation.

In the *rabi* season the principal crops are wheat, barley and gram, both alone and in combination, while rice, *bajra, juar,* maize, cotton and sugarcane occupy a large area in the *kharif.* A detailed table is given in the appendix. Since the last settlement

there has been a decrease in the cultivation of cotton and sugarcane and a remarkable rise in wheat, poppy, garden crops and maize, and the *dofasli* area has increased by 305 per cent.

Rents have risen considerably: occupancy rents by 23·69 and non-occupancy rents by 67·08 per cent., mainly on account of the extension of canal irrigation. Grain rents are seldom met with except in uncertain tracts, the usual arrangement being to pay lump rents on holdings of mixed soils, with considerable variations for the different kinds. The new rates have a greater range than those fixed at the last settlement, varying from Rs. 12-7-6 for the best quality of irrigated *gauhan* to Rs. 3-4-6 on the lowest class of the same soil when unirrigated, while the rates for *bhur* vary from Rs. 5-10-6 for the best to 12 annas for the poorest, with many intermediate rates. The revenue demand is now Rs. 1,89,339, or 5·10 per cent. in excess of that declared at the last settlement, with an incidence of Rs. 1·96 per cultivated acre. There are 237 villages, the same number as at the last settlement, though the number of inhabited sites has risen from 665 to 798. Of the 407 *mahals*, 126 are held in single *zamindari* tenure, 117 in joint *zamindari*, 43 in perfect *pattidari* and 115 in imperfect *pattidari*, and 6 in *bhaiyachara*, each proprietor holding on the average 29 acres only, as compared with 62 at the former settlement. The chief proprietors are communities, mostly of Chauhan Thakurs, who still hold 101,564 acres of the total area. Both they and the Ahir communities have lost ground considerably since the last settlement, though the greatest losers have been the Kayasths, the descendants of the Kanungos who acquired extensive possessions in this pargana under native rule. Brahmans have increased their holdings by 7,661 acres and now possess a quarter of the pargana; Musalmans, who thirty years ago owned only 733 acres, have now over ten times as much, and the money-lending classes have secured a firm footing, particularly the Mahajans, who in 1873 were not to be found in the list of proprietors and are now in possession of 4,293 acres. Of individual proprietors the largest is the Raja of Mainpuri, who also receives *malikana* from 81 villages. Among the cultivating classes Thakurs and Ahirs greatly preponderate both as tenants and in respect of the *sir* and *khudkasht*

areas, while their rents are the lowest, but there is a strong leaven of Kachhis, Brahmans and Chamars.

In 1901 the population of the pargana was 131,135, an increase of 12·2 per cent. since 1891, but of only 10·27 since 1872, owing to a very considerable decrease during the eighties caused by the serious deterioration of the *bhur* tract. The density is now 488 to the square mile of total area, and 849 per square mile of cultivation. There are no towns except *qasba* Bhongaon, with 5,582 inhabitants, and the tract is solely agricultural. There are not many roads in the pargana. *Qasba* Bhongaon lies on the Grand Trunk Road from Allahabad to Delhi, which connects it with Bewar and Farrukhabad to the east and with Kuraoli and the Etah district to the west. There is a metalled road, the Agra branch of the Grand Trunk Road, connecting the town with Mainpuri city, and the metalled Etawah-Fatehgarh road runs through the eastern corner of the pargana between Kishni and Bewar. The principal unmetalled road runs from Mainpuri through the south-west of the pargana to Saman and Kishni, but the interior of the pargana is for the most part only served by village tracks of various degrees of difficulty for wheeled traffic. The only bridge over the Isan is at Kusmara in the south-east, and the long stretch of the river from this point to the next bridge at Mainpuri is mostly impassable in the rains and difficult to cross at other times. The new Shikohabad-Farrukhabad railway now runs through a portion of the pargana, from Mainpuri to near *qasba* Bhongaon and onwards to the Kali Nadi.

Bhongaon was a pargana in the time of Akbar, but has undergone considerable changes since then. In the eighteenth century Kishni-Nabiganj was separated from it, and at the settlement of 1840 four of its villages were transferred to Bewar and fifteen to Mainpuri, while 113 villages belonging to *taluqa* Manchhana, which itself originally formed a part of Bhongaon, were added to the pargana.

BHONGAON *Tahsil.*

Bhongaon tahsil, comprising the parganas of Bhongaon, Alipur Patti, Bewar and Kishni-Nabiganj, is the largest tahsil

in the district. Its area, according to the recent survey, is 458·64 square miles, or 293,534 acres, of which 184,281 acres are cultivated. The Kali Nadi separates it on the north from parganas Aliganj of the Etah district and Shamsabad of Farrukhabad; on the east are parganas Sakrawa, Saurikh and Chhibramau in Farrukhabad; south of it lie the Bhartanan pargana of Etawah, and pargana Karhal, while parganas Mainpuri and Kuraoli form its western boundary. It thus occupies the whole of the eastern portion of the Mainpuri district. Three rivers, the Kali Nadi, Isan and Arind, drain the tahsil, and its physical features are controlled by them. To the east the Kali and Isan are close together and the *bhur* soils which characterize the watershed of each merge into one another. Further west, however, a little to the south-east of the town of Bhongaon, the Isan takes a decided sweep southwards, and the wide watershed, escaping the scouring influences of the drainage, expands into a stretch of *dumat* soil. South of the Isan the tahsil lies within the southern loam tract, and it is here that most of the large natural reservoirs are found, though *jhils* and lakes of fair size exist in other parts of the tahsil.

The tahsil forms a subdivision over which a full-powered officer of the headquarters staff holds criminal and revenue jurisdiction, and there is a *tahsildar* with magisterial powers stationed at Bhongaon. Kunwar Bhagwan Singh of Saman exercises honorary magisterial powers within the Kishni police circle; civil jurisdiction is exercised by the munsif at Mainpuri. There are police stations in Bhongaon, Bewar and Kishni, and part of the tahsil also falls within the Kurra, Mainpuri and Kuraoli police circles.

The cultivated area is now 184,281 acres, a decrease of 6,532 acres since the last settlement, but confined to the *bhur* tract. Though the area irrigated from wells has decreased by 25,674 acres, there is a net increase in irrigation, due to the canals, of 28,743 acres.

The census returns for 1901 show that the population was then 226,940, an increase of over thirty thousand since 1891. Of this total 123,246 were males. As in all other tahsils, Hindus enormously preponderated over Musalmans, there being 216,253

of the former to 9,730 of the latter. The most numerous of the castes composing this majority was that of the Chamars with 30,055 members, and next to them came Kachhis with 25,398, while close behind were Ahirs with 24,464. Brahmans and Rajputs follow with almost identical numbers, the former having 18,320 representatives and the latter only 20 less. Other important castes are Lodhas, 14,011; Kahars, 10,671; Gadariyas, 7,962; Koris, 7,563; and Banias, 6,821. The tahsil is a purely agricultural tract, with but one town, *qasba* Bhongaon, administered under Act XX, containing a population of 5,562, a large proportion of which is non-agricultural and stimulates a considerable production of vegetables and garden produce in its suburbs. A good deal of tobacco is also grown in its vicinity for export. It has a small bazar, but there is scarcely any trade and the town is a very poor one. There are fairly large bazars at Bewar, Kusmara and Alipur Patti, but they are of only local importance.

Means of communication are still backward over a great part of the tahsil. The only bridge over the Isan is at Kusmara, on the Etawah-Farrukhabad road, so that in the rains the tract to the south of that river is practically cut off from communication with the rest except at the cost of either long detours or a very considerable amount of difficulty and risk. The new railway from Shikohabad to Farrukhabad with stations at Bhongaon and Mota will no doubt help to open out and develop the tahsil, but new roads will be required, and it will scarcely touch the southern portion of the tahsil. At present the Grand Trunk Road runs through the northern portion from west to east, skirting the south of Alipur Patti and connecting the towns of Bhongaon and Bewar with each other and with the districts of Etah and Farrukhabad. There is a metalled road from *qasba* Bhongaon to Mainpuri, while through Bewar runs another metalled highway from Etawah to Farrukhabad. The other road are merely village tracks of varying degrees of difficulty.

CHHACHHA, *Pargana* ALIPUR PATTI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This large village, in 27° 19′ N. and 79° 11′ E., is three miles north-west of Bhongaon and eight miles north-east of Mainpuri, and had in 1901 a population of 2,804.

The area is 4,019 acres and the land revenue is Rs. 4,250. The village includes ten separate sites inhabited chiefly by Lodhas, Chamars, Kachhis and Ahirs, with a sprinkling of Kayasths and Brahmans, the descendants of the former *zamindars.* The cultivators are mostly occupancy tenants. There is a village school in this *mauza.* A partially metalled road connects the village with Alipur Patti, and thence an unmetalled road runs to Mota on the railway.

CHITAIN, *Pargana and Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 4′ N. and 79° 13′ E., is situated two miles north-east of Saman on the Mainpuri-Saman unmetalled road. Its population in 1901 was 2,170, the principal castes being Brahmans, Thakurs, Kachhis and Chamars. There are nine subsidiary hamlets. The village constitutes one *mahal* owned jointly by the Raja of Mainpuri, Badri Parshad and Pitam Singh, and is assessed to Rs. 3,000 land revenue. There are two *jhils* to the north and south, and a tank to the north of the site.

DIHULI, *Pargana* BARNAHAL, *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 2′ N. and 78° 53′ E., is situated on the Sirsaganj-Karhal unmetalled road, at a distance of eight and nine miles respectively from each, and 28 miles from Mainpuri. Its population in 1901 was only 362, the principal castes being Banias, Brahmans, Thakurs and Musalmans. The village comprises three *mahals* owned by Rani Baisni Madho Kunwar, Kunwar Jagannath Singh and Babu Ram of Karhal, and is assessed to Rs. 1,160 land revenue. A market is held twice a week on Saturdays and Tuesdays. There are a village school and three temples within the site, and two temples lie outside the village. The site is an ancient one, and a stone bearing a comparatively modern inscription was lately unearthed and removed to Mainpuri. Relatively to its size the village is unimportant, but it was once the headquarters of the old *tappa* of the same name, connected with that of Jakhan in Etawah, under the combined name of pargana Dehli-Jakhan or Bibamau, which was subsequently distributed between pargana Barnahal and the present pargana of Bibamau in Etawah. It was formerly owned by Ahirs.

EKA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This large village, in 27° 24′ N. and 78° 40′ E., is distant about 34 miles from Mainpuri and 22 miles from Shikohabad. Its population in 1901 numbered 6,269 souls, of whom 50 were *zamindars*, 3,754 cultivators, 218 traders, 81 artisans and 457 labourers. It contains 32 hamlets and an area of 8,364 acres, and yields Rs. 12,400 as Government revenue. It contains, besides a small bazar, a first class police station, a post-office and a vernacular school. The Arind flows close by the village on its north side, and near it is the mud fort of the *zamindar* of the place, who is a hereditary Raja, and whose family is a branch of the Partabnair stock of Chauhan Rajputs. Nearly three-quarters of the cultivated land (4,072 acres) of the village is irrigated from the canal.

GHIROR, *Pargana* GHIROR, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

Ghiror, the chief village of the pargana of the same name, lies on the Agra branch of the Grand Trunk Road, in 27° 12′ N. and 78° 51′ E., 16 miles distant from Mainpuri and 14 miles from Shikohabad. Its population in 1901 numbered 2,631 souls, of whom 1,003 were cultivators, 247 traders and 449 labourers. It contains an area of 1,902 acres and nine hamlets, and yields Rs. 2,650 annually as Government revenue. The village consists of one *mahal*, in which 17½ shares out of 20 are held in *zamindari* tenure by the Raja of Mainpuri and the rest by Kanungoi Kayasths. It was formerly the site of a tahsil, and now contains a first class police station, located in the old tahsil, a post-office, a cattle pound, a vernacular school and a bazar, while a market is held twice a week at which some business is done in cloth, grain and cattle Metalled roads connect the village with Jasrana, Shikohabad, Mainpuri and Kosma railway station, and an unmetalled but bridged road with Kuraoli. About five miles to the east is the Kosma station of the Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Railway.

GHIROR *Pargana.*

Pargana Ghiror, in the south-west of the Mainpuri tahsil, is the second largest of the three parganas of which that tahsil is composed. It is bounded on the north by pargana Sakit in Etah

and pargana Kuraoli; on the west by pargana Mustafabad; on the south by parganas Shikohabad and Barnahal; and on the east by pargana Mainpuri. The total area is 94,653 acres or 147·90 square miles.

The pargana lies entirely in the central *dumat* tract. The surface is level except where subject to the action of the rivers Isan and Arind, the latter of which flows in a winding course through the centre of the pargana with a rich and clayey *tarai*, while the former traverses the northern portion but has here no sand on its banks and no *tarai* of any value. The Sengar flows through two villages in the south-east corner of the pargana, exercising no perceptible influence. The Cawnpore and Etawah branches of the Lower Ganges Canal run along the watershed of these rivers, and though drainage cuts have been made to relieve waterlogged areas more might be done in parts of Kosma, Bidhuna, Gangsi, Nasirpur, Pachawar and Nagla Punnu, where water accumulates. The principal *jhils* are at Pachawar, Ghiror, Nagla Punnu, Faizpur, Bidhuna, Bigrai, Karaoli and Gangsi.

The cultivated area is 39,729 acres as compared with 43,533 at the previous settlement. There would appear, however, to be some room for doubt whether there has been any real loss, as the area at the last settlement would seem to have included tracts of fallow and uncultivated land omitted in the figures of the present settlement. The culturable area (fallow and waste) is 13,290 acres as against 12,415 recorded at the last settlement, and the area under groves is 935 acres, an increase of 258 acres since 1873. Thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-six acres are shown as irrigable as against 40,192 recorded at the previous settlement, but here again it is very doubtful whether the figures are not misleading. Canal irrigation has certainly increased, but there has been a falling off in the area watered from wells. This is due in part to the substitution of canal water, but also to the fact that, owing to a general rise in the spring level in the vicinity of irrigation channels, the construction of earthen wells has become more difficult. The actual irrigated area in any ordinary year is about 63 per cent. of the cultivated area, a figure well above the district average and second only to that of pargana Karhal. The principal crops are, in the *rabi* wheat and

barley, both alone and in combination, and poppy; and in the *kharif*, *juar* and *bajra*, rice, maize and cotton. The area under poppy, maize, cotton, potatoes and tobacco, the most valuable crops, shows a large increase, though both indigo and sugarcane have declined. The double-cropped area has considerably increased since the last settlement. Three crops a year are commonly grown in the *gauhan*, usually maize for the *kharif*, *bejhar* or some other winter crop for the *rabi*, and melons or tobacco as a *zaid* crop. The crops sown on the *dofasli* land are wheat, *bejhar* or tobacco after maize, or, in some soils, peas after cotton.

The principal castes of cultivators are Ahirs and Thakurs, who, with the exception of the Kayasths, pay the lowest rents. Next come the Brahmans, Kachhis and Chamars. Thakurs, Ahirs, and Brahmans hold the largest area of *sir*. The average size of occupancy holdings is about 4·65 acres, and of non-occupancy holdings 1·85 acre. The total occupancy area has slightly increased since the last settlement and the rental has risen from Rs. 4·40 to Rs. 4·78 per acre. The non-occupancy rental, on the other hand, has risen from Rs. 4·31 to Rs. 6·19 per acre, an increase of nearly 44 per cent. The rent rates fixed at this settlement vary from Rs. 11-2-0 for *gauhan* to Re. 1-6-6 for *maiyar*.

The sanctioned demand at the present settlement is Rs.1,01,295. A little more than half the pargana is still held by co-parcenary communities, while single *zamindari* occupies about a fifth and joint *zamindari* about a quarter of the area. The tenure of the communities is still mainly imperfect *pattidari*, but that held in perfect *pattidari* is tending to expand. Some 3,000 acres are held in *bhaiyachara* tenure. The number of proprietors has increased 50 per cent., and that of the *mahals* has doubled since last settlement. The average area held by each proprietor is now 51 acres instead of the 78 acres of 30 years ago; but it is still rather more than in most other parganas of the district. Thakurs and Brahmans are still the largest owners, but both have recently been losing ground considerably. The chief Khattris and Banias who have replaced them are the two Cawnpore partners, Babu Bansi Dhar (Bania) and Babu Gopi Narain (Khattri), who have jointly acquired villages of the Auncha *taluqa* from the bankrupt estate of the Brahman Chaudhri of Bishangarh in the

Farrukhabad district. Other considerable estates in the pargana are those of the Raja of Mainpuri, who owns the bulk of Ghiror *khas* and the whole of Bamhrauli; the Raja of Awa, who holds shares in two villages; Kunwar Ulfat Singh and his aunt, *ranis* of Awa, who own nine entire villages; Thakur Suraj Bakhsh Singh of Badshahpur and Thakur Bhagwan Singh of Kalhor, each of whom holds shares in five villages; the present Registrar Kanungo of Mainpuri and his Kayasth relatives resident in Ghiror, who own ancestral shares in six villages; the Chauhan Thakurs, Khanjan Singh and others of Mainpuri; and Chaudhri Tale Singh and Debi Singh of Bharaul, the leading Ahir proprietors in this pargana. The Ahirs of Chitain and Milaoli, the Muhammadans of Kosma and the Kayasths of Auncha and Ghiror have added considerably to their possessions since the last settlement. Among the traders and speculators in land who have been ousting the hereditary landowners, the most prominent are the Mathuria Brahmans, Radha Mohan and Deo Kishan of Mainpuri; the Banias, Raja Ram and Ganga Ram of Kuraoli, and the late Thakur Tukman Singh of Tindaoli in pargana Mainpuri, who had purchased considerable landed property of recent years in this district.

The population of the pargana is almost exactly the same as it was 30 years ago. In 1881 it had risen to 62,837, but ten years later it dropped to 57,871 and in 1901 it was 59,613, or only 152 more than in 1872. The decrease in the eighties was general throughout the district and has already been explained. The tract is a rural one, devoted to agriculture, and Ghiror, the headquarters of the pargana, though it has a certain amount of trade and is an important cattle mart, is nothing more than a village. Other important villages and market places are Auncha, Kosma, Darbah and Kuchela. The Agra branch of the Grand Trunk Road was till lately the only metalled road, but the Jasrana-Ghiror-Kosma road has been recently constructed. Two unmetalled roads connect Ghiror with Kuraoli and Karhal and there are several smaller unmetalled roads connecting the bridges on the Cawnpore and Etawah canals. The new Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Railway traverses the east of the pargana almost parallel to and about three or four miles east of the Agra road.

HATPAO, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 19′ N. and 79° 12′ E., lies nine miles to the east of Mainpuri and a little to the south of the Nagaria distributary. The population in 1901 was 2,259, the main caste being Thakurs. There are no less than 20 subsidiary hamlets. The village is divided into 21 *mamals*, assessed in all at Rs 3,130 land revenue. An old fort by the side of a *jhil* stands on an old abandoned and elevated site that forms a considerable land-mark in the neighbourhood.

JASRANA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This large village, now the headquarters of the Mustafabad tahsil, lies on the high road from Shikohabad to Etah, about 12 miles from the former and about 25 miles to the west of Mainpuri, in 27° 14′ N. and 78° 42′ E. It is connected with Mustafabad and Kosma *viâ* Ghiror by a metalled road. It carries on an active local trade and a manufacture of iron articles and glass bangles. The population in 1901 was 4,218 made up of 121 *zamindars*, 1,539 cultivators, 159 traders, and 1,174 labourers. There are 11 hamlets. The village possesses a police station, a hospital, a post-office, a bazar, a school and an inspection bungalow, while a market is held twice a week at which the chief articles of trade are *ghi* and grain. An annual fair is held here in the month of *Chait*. The area of the village is 2,722 acres, of which 1,601 acres are cultivated, and the revenue demand is Rs. 4,660. The Sengar river running to the south in wet seasons floods the tahsil and hospital buildings. The importance of the village has been greatly increased by the removal of the tahsil to it a few years ago, and it is now administered under Act II of 1892.

JAWAPUR, *Pargana* GHIROR, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 10′ N. and 78° 56′ E., lies some 10 miles to the south-west of Mainpuri on the unmetalled road to Sirsaganj. Its population in 1901 was 2,116, comprising 86 *zamindars*, and 1,326 cultivators. There are 17 hamlets. There is a vernacular school in the village. One thousand four hundred and three acres out of the total area of 3,237 are cultivated, and

about one-fourth of this is irrigated from the canal. Thakurs, Ahirs and Banias are the *zamindars* and the village consists of one *mahal* assessed at Rs. 3,350. About three miles to the south-west is the Kosma station of the Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Railway. The village lies north of and close to the Etawah Canal, over which there is a bridge.

JOT, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 8′ N. and 79° 25′ E., is situated four miles south of Nabiganj and 15 miles east of Bhongaon, and lies on the Farrukhabad border. Its population in 1901 was 2,069, spread over the main site and its 12 subsidiary hamlets, the principal castes being Thakurs, Kachhis, and Brahmans. It constitutes one *pattidari mahal* assessed at Rs. 2,730 land revenue. There is a *jhil* to the north.

KAILAI, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 25′ N. and 78° 43′ E., lies in the extreme north of the Mustafabad tahsil on the Etah border, 28 miles west of Mainpuri and 12 miles north from Jasrana, south of the Cawnpore canal, where there is a bridge. Consisting of one *mahal* assessed at Rs. 5,150, it covers a total area of 2,800 acres, of which 1,757 are under cultivation, nearly three-quarters of the cultivated area being irrigated from the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. There are 17 hamlets. The *zamindars* are Thakurs, Mahajans, Marwaris and Brahmans. The population in 1901 numbered 3,133 persons, of whom 247 were *zamindars*, 1,433 cultivators and 247 labourers. Kailai contains a vernacular school and is chiefly noted for the manufacture of scissors, knives and betel-nut cutters. The village site partly covers an old *khera* on which remains of stone images are to be found.

KANKAN, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 8′ N. and 79° 2′ E., lies a little to the east of the Etawah road, about seven miles south of Mainpuri. It is situated in part on a very high mound which catches the eye of the traveller a great way off, and contains a large tank which is

used for irrigation. There is a vernacular school in the village, and in Daulatpur, one of the five hamlets of which it is composed, two fairs are held every year in honour of Shiva and Rama. The population in 1901 numbered 2,337 persons, of whom 589 were *zamindars* and 983 cultivators. The village consists of one *mahal* and covers an area of 3,395 acres, of which 1,251 acres are cultivated, a little more than half the cultivated area being irrigated from the canal.

KARHAL, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This town, the headquarters of the pargana and tahsil of the same name, lies in 27° N. and 79° E., on the Mainpuri-Etawah road, 17 miles south of Mainpuri and 16 miles north-east of the Etawah railway station. The population in 1901 numbered 6,268 persons, of whom 1,782 were Musalmans and 4,026 Hindus, mainly Brahmans, Kachhis, and Banjaras, while 460 belonged to other religions. The town is approached by the Ghiror, Sirsaganj and Kishni unmetalled road; the metalled road from Mainpuri to Etawah skirts the town on the east and the principal street winds off from it at right angles to form the bazar. The shops and houses are generally poor, but at the back of the bazar some of the private dwellings of the merchants, who are chiefly Saraogi Banias, are substantial brick-built houses and their spired temples are visible from a great distance. The principal buildings are the tahsil, police station, school, girls' school, dispensary, cattle-pound and *sarai*, the last named being an enclosure with two gateways, containing a mosque and a well. There is also an indigenous Sanskrit school of the Jains. The town contains altogether 1,405 houses and is administered under Act XX of 1856. A brisk local trade is carried on in *ghi* and cotton, and both saltpetre and glass are manufactured here. The village consists of five *mahals*, of which four belong to Karhal *khas* while the fifth is made up of resumed lands. The land-revenue assessed on Karhal *khas* is Rs. 4,400, the other *mahal* paying Rs. 695 for the first five years, Rs. 775 for the second five years and Rs. 850 for the remaining period of the current settlement. Half of the *zamindari* of Karhal has now been transferred to Rani Kishori of Lakhna, in the Etawah district. A market

is held in the town every Sunday and Thursday and there are four annual fairs: the *Debi Mela*, the *Jaini Mela*, the *Ram Lila* , and the *Jagdhar Mela*.

The local traditions are numerous and are connected with the names of the *mohallas*. These are the Qazi *Mohalla*, so called from the old house of a former Qazi; the Khera, or the old town; the Laddaian, from the trade of the Brahmans living in it; the Bhutela, from the name of the clan of Brahmans living in it; the Mualliman, from a celebrated family of teachers who have the local reputation of having invented the *shikasta* or running hand mode of writing the Persian character; the Birtia, from that clan of Brahmans; the Khakrob, or sweepers' quarter; and the Singhi, from the division of Banias of that name. Tradition asserts the site to have originally belonged to a Gaur Thakur who lived in Simrau. He was dispossessed by the Musalmans, who after some time conferred the proprietary rights in Simrau and 59 other villages on a family of Laharia Brahmans who had been the servants of the Gaur Raja. These Brahmans founded Karhal, the site of which was covered with *karahla* jungle, used by the Banjaras for grazing their cattle. These Banjaras had built a fine well here, which is still known as the *Banjarawala kuan*. A good deal of the pargana is still in the hands of Laharia Brahmans.

KARHAL *Pargana*.

This pargana, which with pargana Barnahal makes up the Karhal tahsil, is bounded on the north by pargana Mainpuri, on the west by pargana Barnahal, on the south by pargana Etawah and on the east by parganas Bhongaon and Kishni. Its area is 81,013 acres or 126·6 square miles, and it contains 86 *mauzas* and 380 *mahals*. It lies between the Arind and the Sengar, and though it contains no streams of any importance, yet from the number and position of its drainage lines it must be considered to possess great natural advantages. The great *jhils* scattered over its surface give rise to the Puraha and Ahnaiya, which further on, in the Etawah district, develop into fair-sized streams, and to the Ujhiani, a tributary of the Sengar. The pargana belongs to the great loam tract, and its principal soils are loam and clay,

interspersed with extensive plains of *usar*, strongly impregnated with *reh*. The clay is generally confined to the lowlands and the loam to the uplands, whilst here and there along the Sengar a few patches of sandy soil appear. The principal *jhils* are at Deokali, Nagla Kondai, Auna, Sauj, Harer, Timrakh, Bhanti, Sarh, Rurua, Bansak, Harwai, Kirthua, Gambira, Aimanpur and Kurra. Nearly all the waste is bad and unprofitable. The pargana is very fully irrigated, the bulk of the irrigation being from the canal. Owing to the prevalence of canal irrigation, and the consequent raising of the water-level, the supersaturated soil is not generally suitable for earthen wells but masonry wells are profitable. The cultivated area is 34,796 acres, an increase of 923 acres over that recorded at the last settlement. The irrigable area is shown as 33,072 acres for the year of survey, an increase over the figures of last settlement of only 11 acres. The actual irrigated area in any normal year is no less than 70 per cent. of the cultivated area, the highest in the district. A comparison of irrigable areas gives an increase during the 30 years of 2,621 acres, chiefly due to the extension of canal irrigation. The number of masonry and half-masonry wells has more than doubled, there being now 113 of the former and 206 of the latter. There has been a diminution in the areas recorded as culturable (waste and fallow) and non-culturable, the former now standing at 13,814 acres and the latter at 12,392 acres.

The principal crops are, in the *rabi*, wheat and barley, both alone and in combination with gram and peas and poppy, the latter occupying 2,365 acres; in the *kharif*, rice, maize, cotton with *arhar*, *juar* and *bajra* with *arhar*, are chiefly cultivated. There is a tendency to mixed-cropping and double-cropping, and there has been an increase in the area under poppy, garden crops, maize and mixed crops generally: the area under sugarcane has declined.

Ahirs predominate as cultivators, holding 12,770 acres. Brahmans come next with 9,134, and after them Thakurs with 7,057 acres. There is a fair sprinkling of Kachhis and Chamars, but these are not so numerous as in other parts of the district. The occupancy area, now 63·31 per cent. of the whole, has largely increased, but the average size of holdings has decreased since

the last settlement. This is most marked in the non-occupancy area, where there is freer competition. Non-occupancy rentals have risen by 66 per cent. and occupancy rents by 13·5 per cent., the average incidence for the former being Rs. 6·26 and for the latter Rs. 5.

The revenue demand is Rs. 94,702, an increase of 8·71 per cent. on the former revenue. About half the pargana is still held by co-parcenary communities, though they have been losing heavily, mainly to single *zamindari* tenure, though there has also been a gain to joint *zamindari*. Over a thousand acres are still held in *bhaiyachara* tenure. The communities are mainly those of Thakurs, petty struggling brotherhoods, on whom increasing numbers tell severely. Brahmans, who are here old hereditary *zamindars*, have been losing appreciably, and the new acquirers are as usual the money-lending classes. Practically none of the pargana is owned by Ahirs, a most unusual circumstance in this district. In spite of the large increases under single *zamindari*, the average holding of each recorded landholder has diminished from 81 acres to 39 in the last 30 years. The largest individual landowners are the Raja of Partabnair in the Etawah district, who holds most of the large village of Kurra-Jarawan and the villages of Sarh, Bhanti, Khera and others; Lala Phulzari Lal, Bania of Karhal, who holds five whole villages and other property, here and there; Babu Bansidhar, Bania, of Cawnpore, who holds the large village of *mauza* Patara and Timrakh; the Raja of Mainpuri, who owns part of Sahan and Udna Danda; Lala Parshotam Das of Farrukhabad, who owns four villages; and the Brahman family which owns Karhal *khas*, Muhammadpur Nagaria, and shares in other villages. The village of Dhankarpur has been held rent free by a Musalman family since the days of the Mughals.

The population of the pargana in 1872 was 46,257 : in 1881 it had risen to 55,478, but fell in 1891 to 55,301 and in 1901 to 54,631. There has thus been a net increase in the 30 years of 18 per cent., and like its neighbour Barnahal, though it escaped the heavy losses suffered by the rest of the district in the eighties, it has decreased in population during the last decade. The large area under water makes the pargana malarious.

The pargana is a purely rural tract situated at a distance from the railway, and with no industries but agriculture. Karhal, with a population of 6,268, is the only Act XX town, and is the headquarters of the tahsil. The only metalled road is that which runs through Karhal *khas* from Etawah to Mainpuri. There are three good unmetalled roads leading from Karhal to Kishni, Sirsaganj and Ghiror, but the northern and north-eastern portions of the pargana are poorly provided with communications. There is little historical interest attaching to the pargana. Karhal was formerly a *tappa* of the old Akbari pargana of Haveli-Etawah, which formed the head of a *dastur*. Before 1840 it received 14 villages from Dehli-Jakhan, and in 1860 another 19 villages were added to it from Sauj, two of which, Madhan and Saraulia, have since been transferred to Mainpuri.

KARHAL *Tahsil.*

Karhal tahsil comprises the Karhal and Barnahal parganas, and lies in the south-east of the district between pargana Kishni to the east and tahsil Shikohabad to the west. The total area is 218·2 square miles, or 139,620 acres, divided into 193 *mauzas*. The cultivated area is 70,694 acres. Roughly speaking, the Sengar river is the dividing line between the two parganas, which differ radically from one another in physical features. Karhal pargana lies in the loam tract, with the exception of a few villages in the south-west, which have a sandy soil. It contains no rivers of any size, but there are chains of depressions, *jhils* and lakes, which in the rains form lines of drainage. The surface is uniform throughout, with large stretches of *usar* scattered about it. Pargana Barnahal, on the other hand, is distinguished by its light loam soil and the high sandy tracts near and parallel to the Sengar, while the proportion of *usar* is smaller and the drainage more rapid than in Karhal.

For purposes of revenue and criminal jurisdiction Karhal, in itself a very light charge, is usually combined with another tahsil and is in charge of a subdivisional officer belonging to the headquarters staff at Mainpuri. A tahsildar with magisterial powers is posted at Karhal and the civil jurisdiction is exercised

by the munsif of Mainpuri. Lala Phulzari Lal, a local notable of Karhal, exercises honorary magisterial powers within the Karhal police circle. There are two police stations in the tahsil, at Kurra and Karhal, and portions of the Mainpuri and Ghiror police circles also fall within its boundaries.

At the census of 1901 the population was 98,398, of whom 53,924 were males. Musalmans only contributed 4,896 to the total, while of other religions, Christians, Jains, Aryas, Sikhs, etc., there were only 726. Of the Hindu castes Ahirs enormously preponderated with 23,104 representatives, nearly twice as many as those of the next most numerous body, the Chamars, of whom there were 12,547. Kachhis and Brahmans followed, each with a membership of over 9,000, and some way behind them Rajputs with 6,713. No other caste has as many as 4,000 representatives. Karhal appears to have monopolized the 159 Bhils who were recorded for the district. The tahsil is a purely rural tract, situated at a distance from the railway, which only just touches the north-western corner, and possessing no special trades or industries other than agriculture. Karhal is the only Act XX town, and contains the usual administrative offices of a tahsil headquarters as well as a market of merely local importance. Barnahal is a village approached by poor village tracks. Karhal is comparatively ill off for communications. The only metalled road in the tahsil is the Etawah-Mainpuri road which passes through Karhal town, and there are three very fair unmetalled roads branching out from the town, one to Kishni and Saman, along the south of Karhal pargana, one through the south of pargana Barnahal to Sirsaganj and Shikohabad, and the third north-west to Ghiror. A great part of pargana Barnahal and all the northern and north-western portions of pargana Karhal are still unprovided with anything that can be described as a road.

KARIMGANJ, *Pargana* KURAOLI, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 19′ N. and 79° 8′ E., lies six miles from Mainpuri on the Etah road. Its population in 1901 numbered 2,263 persons, of whom 18 were *zamindars*, 1,333 cultivators and 549 labourers. There are nine hamlets. There has been a

remarkable increase in the population of this village since 1872, when it contained only 847 inhabitants. It covers an area of 2,104 acres, of which 1,869 are under cultivation, and consists of two *mahals* assessed at Rs. 3,750. Karimganj was in old days a much more notable place than it is now. The adjoining *khera* which is now abandoned was once the centre of a considerable town. A long lake curves round it, approaching it on the west side. But to the east there must have been an imposing city containing some thousands of inhabitants, and perhaps a mile in circumference, with an inner bazar reaching nearly to the road and a *ganj* or market outside. There are few remains of the old town, but the ground is everywhere covered with fragments of brick, while on the road are traces of a gateway, with some remnants of another gateway on the ground beyond the road. A broken image lies near the road, but other fragments found here have been removed. On the summit of the *khera* are the ruins of a fort which once belonged to Khan Bahadur, a famous chief who lived about a century and a half ago and is still remembered as far afield as Kasganj and Aliganj in the Etah district and Nabiganj at the other end of Mainpuri. Vague legends suggest that he broke up the central part of the town to build his fort, and after his death none of his family seem to have lived in the town. Khan Bahadur is even said to have helped the then Raja of Mainpuri to enlarge that city, whose rivalry ultimately proved fatal to Karimganj.

KAURARA BUZURG, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 13′ N. and 78° 46′ E., lies about 24 miles to the west of Mainpuri near the north bank of the Sengar. The population in 1901 numbered 2,648 persons, of whom 141 were *zamindars*, 1,350 cultivators and 584 labourers. The village consists of one *mahal* and 13 hamlets covering an area of 3,764 acres, of which 1,916 are under cultivation. Nearly three-fourths of the cultivated area is irrigated from the canal and the land revenue assessed is Rs. 6,250. The *zamindars* are Thakurs, Brahmans, Banias and Sunars. The village contains a vernacular school and there are the ruins of an old fort and of an indigo factory close by.

KHAIRGARH, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 11′ N. and 78° 33′ E., lies 42 miles to the south of Mainpuri and five miles to the north of the Makhanpur station on the main line of the East Indian Railway. In 1901 its population was 1,492, consisting mainly of Banias, Brahmans and Thakurs. The village used to be of greater size and importance, and is chiefly now remarkable as a local trade centre and the residence of wealthy Marwari Brahmans, whose large masonry houses give the place the appearance of a small town. There is an old fort of the Chauhans, and a still older one is said to have been built by Raja Sanman. There is a good bazar with market days twice a week, the principal articles traded in being cattle, cotton, corn, sugar, cloth and *ghi*. The village is divided into four *mahals* paying Rs. 1,160 land revenue. Formerly it was owned by Chauhans, but the local Marwaris and Kunwar Kushalpal Singh's family have acquired most of the area. There are two subsidiary hamlets. In the village are a school, two temples, a pound and a post-office.

KISHNI, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 2′ N. and 79° 18′ E., lies on the Etawah-Farrukhabad metalled road 22 miles from Mainpuri and 24 miles from the Etawah railway station. The terminus of the unmetalled road running from Sirsaganj along the south of the district is here. The population, according to the census of 1901, is 2,339, and its area is 3,122 acres assessed at Rs. 3,750. There are 14 hamlets. The village contains a police station, a post-office, a village school, a cattle-pound, and shops for the sale of liquor and drugs. Markets are held twice a week on each Saturday and Tuesday. The village consists of two *mahals* owned by Thakurs and Brahmans. The cultivators are chiefly Thakurs, Brahmans, Kachhis, Ahirs and Chamars, and most of them are occupancy tenants.

KISHNI-NABIGANJ *Pargana*.

Pargana Kishni-Nabiganj is situated on the extreme east of the Bhongaon tahsil, of which it forms a part, and of the district. Its eastern boundaries are parganas Chhibramau and Sakrawa of

the Farrukhabad district, and it marches with Bewar and Bhongaon on the west. Of a long irregular shape, it stretches the whole length of this portion of the district from its northern boundary, the Kali Nadi, down to the Etawah district on the south. Its total area is 71,706 acres, or 112·06 square miles, and comprises 87 *mauzas,* which are divided into 114 *mahals.* The Isan and Arind rivers and the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal traverse it from west to east.

The pargana comprises two distinct tracts of country, the dividing line being the watershed of the Isan and Arind to the north of the Cawnpore branch canal. The upper half belongs to the northern *bhur* tract, and the lower is a continuation of the central loam tract of the district. The well capacity of the former is poor and there are comparatively few *jhils* and *tals*, the main exceptions being those of Janaura, Jot, and Chirawar. Like all *bhur*, this tract is liable to suffer both in seasons of excessive rainfall and of drought; it underwent a period of deterioration in the wet seasons of the last settlement, culminating in 1890 when it was overrun with *kans,* and the cultivated area of the previous settlement had sunk from 15,480 to 10,573 acres. There has been a recovery since, and the introduction of steady irrigation in a portion of the pargana from the Bewar branch of the Lower Ganges Canal should protect it to some extent for the future, though there is always a danger of the recurrence of the pest in a series of wet years. In the southern loam tract the soil has much less sand in its composition and is of much firmer and heavier quality, tending, over large areas, to run to clay, while there are extensive plains of *usar*. But the intervening culturable soil is usually a clean loam of excellent productive quality. The well capacity is generally good, the spring level being within easy reach and the substratum strong, while there are numerous large *jhils*, which, in ordinary years, usefully supplement the irrigation. The most important of these are Saman, the largest in the district, Basait, Pharenji, Mahuli, and Shamsherganj. Of the total area 36,732 acres are cultivated, of which 30,660 are irrigable. The irrigated area in any normal year is well over half the cultivated area, and also above the district average. Eight thousand nine hundred and sixteen acres are culturable (fallow and waste),

1,961 acres are under groves and 24,097 acres are unculturable. At the last settlement the cultivated area was larger by only 45 acres, while irrigation has now increased by over 300 acres.

The *kharif* and *rabi* areas closely approximate; but in the poorer villages more *kharif* is grown than *rabi*, and in such villages *bajra* is preferred to *juar*. Wheat, alone or in combination, is the principal *rabi* crop, and maize and *juar* with *arhar* cover most of the *kharif* area. There has been a considerable increase of late years in the amount of maize sown, and also in the practice of double-cropping and mixed-cropping. Rice is grown, but the area under it is very variable. Poppy and garden crops are rising in popularity, but sugarcane has diminished since the previous settlement.

The total population is 56,430, giving a density of 504 to the square mile of total area and 983 to the square mile of cultivation. This is an increase of 16 per cent. over the figures of 1872 and of 14 per cent. over those of 1891. The vast majority are Hindus, among whom Thakurs and Ahirs largely predominate. The pargana is a purely agricultural tract; and though it contains 17 villages with a population of over 1,000, none are of any greater importance than petty local bazars. The two biggest are Nabiganj to the north and Kishni to the south, the latter having still a slight importance as the local centre and camping headquarters of this distant portion of the district, while the former was once the headquarters of a pargana of the same name. There are no trades or manufactures; the pargana is at some distance from the railway on either side, and has not advanced for some time past in the matter of communications, the larger number of the villages being off the roads that do exist. The Isan is not bridged, and communication from the one half of the pargana to the other often means long détours outside its boundaries. A metalled road from Bewar into the Farrukhabad district runs through Nabiganj in the extreme north; and the metalled Etawah-Bewar road passes through Kishni and the south-west of the pargana, but otherwise the greater portion of it is served by nothing much better than village tracks.

The bulk of the pargana is still held by co-parcenary communities, which own 44,806 out of the total 71,706 acres, 34,828 acres being held in imperfect *pattidari* and 9,978 acres in perfect *pattidari*. These communities hold 56 *mahals* out of 114, and number 2,219 recorded proprietors. They are mainly Chauhan Thakur brotherhoods, the chief branches of which are those of Arjunpur and Bhadai, Tarha, Ramnagar, Rathe and Kishni. Of the 58 *mahals* held in *zamindari* tenure 30 are single *zamindari*, the principal proprietors being the Raja of Mainpuri, who owns nine and a half villages, the Raja of Tirwa, with four and a half, and the Thakur of Saman who holds the two very large and valuable villages of Saman and Basait in the south-west of the pargana. In addition to these the Raja of Mainpuri receives *haqq malikana* as superior proprietor in 21 villages of the *taluqa* of Laigaon to the south-east of the pargana from the local under-proprietors, who are called *muqaddims* or *biswadars*. These are for the most part Thakur village communities, who pay into the treasury fixed sums on account of the *malikana* along with their revenue, an arrangement dating from 1840. There are similar *biswadari* villages in Bhongaon, Alipur Patti and Mainpuri. The revenue demand is now Rs. 81,945, an increase of 7·11 per cent. on the expiring demand *plus* owner's rate.

Thakurs hold the largest area as cultivators, followed by Kachhis, who are the best cultivators in the district. Ahirs and Brahmans are not far behind, and Chamars hold a fair proportion. Thakurs and Ahirs are poor cultivators and unsatisfactory tenants, but their rents are the lowest, because they are largely related to the proprietary bodies. Kachhis pay the highest rents, because, as a rule, their land is the best in the village and they can be more easily squeezed than the higher castes. Seventy-eight per cent. of the tenants' area is held in occupancy tenure, and the prevailing rule is to pay lump rents on holdings of mixed soils. The average size of holdings of all kinds is tending to decrease, that of occupancy tenants being now 3·67 acres, of non-occupancy tenants 1·39 acre, and of *sir* and *khudkasht* 4·66 acres. The standard soil rates vary from Rs. 12-7-6 on *gauhan* to 12 annas on unirrigated and inferior *bhur*.

KOSMA, *Pargana* GHIROR, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 10′ N. and 78° 55′ E., lies about 14 miles to the south-west of Mainpuri, at a distance of about one mile from the railway station of the same name on the Shikohabad-Farrukhabad line. It is divided into two distinct villages called Kosma Hinud and Kosma Muslimin. The former, which is divided into six *mahals*, covers an area of 3,334 acres, of which 1,617 are under cultivation, and is assessed at Rs. 4,450. Kosma Muslimin, which consists of only one *mahal*, covers an area of 3,302 acres, of which 1,163 are cultivated, and pays Rs. 3,300 a year as Government revenue. There are 27 hamlets in the two villages. A *rajbaha* flows through the village and irrigates about 1,575 acres in Kosma Hinud and 1,163 acres in Kosma Muslimin. The population of the two portions was, in 1901, respectively 2,818 and 1,714. The Musalmans of the place, who are converts from Hinduism, claim descent from the Jaisalmer family of Tank Rajputs and follow a curious mixture of Hindu and Muhammadan customs. The whole village appears to have been at one time in the possession of these Musalman converts, but a great part of it has now passed into the hands of Hindus, Thakurs, Brahmans and Marwaris. Family disputes which are still going on appear to have chiefly contributed to this loss of *zamindari*. The village contains a small bazar and a vernacular school.

KUCHELA, *Pargana* GHIROR, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 10′ N. and 78° 8′ E., lies eight miles to the south of Mainpuri on the unmetalled road between the Dharmangadpur-Nagaria and Gangsi bridges. Its total area is 3,341 acres, out of which 1,204 are under cultivation, and it consists of one *mahal* assessed at Rs 3,100 with seven hamlets. The Gangsi *rajbaha* irrigates about 231 acres in the village. The population in 1901 numbered 2,187 persons, of whom 77 were *zamindars*, Thakurs of the Chauhan and Tank clans, and 1,504 were cultivators. The village contains both a post-office and a vernacular school.

KUMHAUL, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 5′ N. and 79° 28′ E., is situated seven miles east of Kishni on the left bank of the Arind river. Its

population in 1901 was 2369, the principal castes being Ahirs, Kachhis, Brahmans and Chamars. It is divided into four *mahals*, paying Rs. 4,200 land revenue, and 14 hamlets excluding the main site. There are two market days in the week.

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KURAOLI, *Pargana* KURAOLI, *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This town, in 27° 25′ N. and 79° 2′ E., lies on the high road from Mainpuri to Etah in the northern corner of the district some 14 miles distant from Mainpuri. The town is open and well-built though small, containing several good houses belonging to well-to-do traders and money-lenders of the place. Standing on the high road without any neighbouring town to rival it, it possesses the advantages of a post-office, police station and a vernacular school which have all helped to increase its comparatively new importance. There are six hamlets of Kuraoli proper, and the inhabited site of Sujrai, the headquarters of the Raja of Sujrai, whose estate is now under the Court of Wards, is included in the town and lies to the south of the Grand Trunk Road, the rest of the town lying to the north. Unlike Bhongaon and Bewar the Grand Trunk Road is not the main bazar, but skirts Kuraoli and Sujrai retaining its normal width free of encroachments, and clear of all but one or two shops. The main bazar of the town consists of a street leading to a market-place, in the centre of which is the school. The market and shops belong to the Sujrai estate. There are nine mosques and 21 Hindu temples in and about the town, that founded by the Kayasth Qanungos being perhaps the oldest, though it does not claim an antiquity of much over a century. The "Satia" oculists have a considerable local reputation. There are ten or twelve families of them, and they profess to have a practice extending to a distance of a hundred miles. They treat nothing but cataract, using a minute dagger-shaped lancet to prick with, and a blunt one like a bodkin to press out the discharge from the puncture. Their instruments are made by the Sikligar Pathans of the place. A good deal of the district *tarkashi* work is done here. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856, the cost being defrayed by a house-tax. The total number of houses is 1,608 and the population in 1901 amounted to 4,339, consisting of 2,253 males

and 2,086 females, while classified according to religion there were 3,062 Hindus, 1,033 Musalmans and 244 others.

KURAOLI *Pargana.*

Pargana Kuraoli, in the north-west corner of the district, forms the northern portion of tahsil Mainpuri, the other two parganas of which bound it to the south. On the west and north is the Etah district, and pargana Bhongaon lies to the east. Its area is 47,841 acres, or 74·8 square miles.

The Kali Nadi flows along the northern boundary of the pargana in an easterly course with a narrow alluvial *khadir*, succeeded to the south by irregular ridges of *bhur* and sandy soil, sometimes disappearing but in places forming rolling sand hills. Another line of *bhur* runs in a steep ridge south from Kuraoli town to the Kak Nadi and thence to the Isan, cutting through the *dumat* tract to the south of the pargana. The Kak forms the southern boundary of the pargana, except for eleven villages which lie between it and the Isan. It is a small stream with a narrow area of *tarai*, and a shallow channel which serves to carry the flood drainage from villages in the Etah district into the Isan. As its bed is not very well defined damage from floods is not infrequent. There are several *jhils* of considerable size, the most important being those at Rasemar, Panwah, Barkhera, Sirsa, Isai and Basra Sultanpur.

Cultivation now covers 27,378 acres, a decrease of 5·40 per cent. since last settlement, when the area was 28,941 acres. It it probable, however, that owing to different systems of classification the real loss is not more than 4 per cent. The culturable area (waste and fallow,) is 4,503 acres, and the unculturable 15,368 acres. Five hundred and ninety-two acres are planted with groves, as against 457 at the former settlement. The irrigable area has increased by 571 acres since 1873, and now stands at 20,574 acres, but the real improvement is not to be measured by these figures. The introduction of the Bewar Canal has provided the light soil and *bhur* tracts, which were formerly peculiarly susceptible to drought and ill-furnished with facilities for irrigation, with a stable supply of water, and no less than 37 per cent. of the irrigated area is now able to rely on this source. The actual area irrigated

in a normal year is slightly less than half the cultivated area and is below the district average. Masonry wells, and those lined with block *kankar*, are built fairly easily in most parts of the pargana, and there were 577 of them returned at settlement as in effective use. A certain amount of use is also made of the *jhils* and of the Kak Nadi.

Wheat, alone and in combination, is the chief staple of the *rabi*; maize and *juar* (in combination) of the *kharif*. The areas under poppy, tobacco, potatoes, garden crops and sugar-cane have largely increased in recent years and now occupy a fairly large proportion of the total cultivated area. The tendency of the cultivation is to double-cropping and mixed-cropping with the more valuable crops.

The population was, in 1901, 37,973, having risen by 12 per cent. since 1872, and the density was 506 to the square mile of the total area and 883 to the square mile of cultivated area, as against 447 and 755 respectively at last settlement. The number of villages is 91, with 167 inhabited sites. The revenue is Rs. 46,879, an increase of 8 per cent. on the expiring demand *plus* the owner's rate. The great bulk of the pargana is still held by co-parcenary communities, nearly two-thirds being owned by Thakurs, mainly of the Rathor clan. Next come Kayasths, and after them Ahirs and Brahmans. Both Thakurs and Kayasths have been losing ground during the last 30 years, but the greater part of their losses has been acquired by Ahirs and Brahmans, and the money-lending classes have still but very small possessions in the pargana. The principal single *zamindari* estate is that of Sujrai, now represented by a minor and managed by the Court of Wards. The Thakur family of Mirhaoli Kalan have also considerable and increasing estates. The Kayasths of *qasba* Kuraoli, descendants of the Qanungo families who amassed their property under native rule, are gradually losing their former large possessions. The Ahirs holding the Isan villages in the south-west are good cultivators and successful *zamindars*, and have been adding to their property. During the Mutiny their ancestors defeated Tej Singh, the rebel Raja of Mainpuri, and captured two of his guns, services for which their two leaders received grants of land.

Among the cultivators Ahirs largely predominate as a single caste, and they and the Thakurs hold practically all the *sir* and *khudkasht* But there is a good number of Lodhas, as well as of Kachhis, Chamars and Brahmans. The lowest rents are paid by Ahirs, and the highest by Kachhis. The bulk of the cultivated area is held by occupancy tenants, no less than 80 per cent. of the tenants' area being so held. There has been a great deal of subdivision, and rents of occupancy holdings show a large increase of recent years, the average incidence per acre of rents being now Rs. 3·65 for occupancy and Rs. 3·81 for non-occupancy holdings. The only Act XX town is Kuraoli, a local mart for the surrounding country with a small export trade in grain and a population of 4,339. The Kayasth landlords reside here, and they and the rest of the population create a demand for vegetable produce, which is supplied by the Kachhi market-gardeners of the suburbs and surrounding villages, where cultivation is consequently very close and rents very high. There are no other large villages and no industries or manufactures, the tract being a purely rural one.

The pargana is generally well served in the matter of communications. *Qasba* Kuraoli lies on the Grand Trunk Road from Allahabad to Delhi, which runs through the pargana due east and west, connecting it with Bhongaon, Bewar and the Farrukhabad district on the one side, and with Etah on the other. A little to the east of the town another metalled road takes off from the Grand Trunk Road and gives communication with Mainpuri town, 13 miles to the south. An unmetalled road, fairly good and bridged throughout its length, connects Kuraoli with Ghiror, 18 miles to the south-west on the metalled Shikohabad-Mainpuri road, thus giving access to the south and west portions of the district and the railway. Off the lines of these roads, however, the means of communication consist of little but village tracks.

The only historical associations of Kuraoli are connected with the Mutiny. It was at the encamping-ground here that the native cavalry mutinied in 1857 and murdered several of their officers.

KURRA OR KURRA-JARAWAN, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 2′ N. and 79° 8′ E., is situated on the Kishni-Karhal road at a distance of 16 miles from Mainpuri and 10 miles from Karhal, and had in 1901 a population of 2,850 persons. It covers an area of 4,107 acres and comprises two *mahals* and 23 hamlets, with an assessment of Rs. 3,690. Half the *mauza* is owned by Tej Partab Singh, *rais* of Partabnair in the Etawah district, and the other half by Mathura Parshad, Mahajan of Rampura, and Musammat Dauji Kunwar of Hardoi in Etawah. The inhabitants are chiefly Ahirs, Brahmans and Thakurs, and the majority of the cultivators are occupancy tenants. A market is held twice a week, on Thursday and Saturday, at which cattle are sold as well as grain and other commodities. A police station and a cattle-pound are situated in the village, through which passes a minor from the Etawah branch canal.

KUSIARI, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 14′ N. and 78° 47′ E., lies on the left bank of the Etawah branch of the Lower Ganges Canal, 20 miles west of Mainpuri and about six miles east of Jasrana. It contains 15 hamlets and 16 *mahals* and covers a total area of 4,643 acres, of which 1,672 acres are under cultivation, nearly two-thirds of the cultivated area being irrigated from the canal. The *zamindars* are Thakurs, Brahmans and Sunars, who pay Rs. 5,805 annually as land revenue. There is a vernacular school in the village and the population in 1901 was 2,932, of whom 1,602 were males and 1,310 females. Classifying the inhabitants according to religion, there were 2,851 Hindus, 77 Musalmans, and four others; or by occupations, 94 *zamindars*, 1,600 cultivators and 479 labourers.

KUSMARA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 7′ N. and 79° 20′ E., lies on the Farrukhabad-Etawah road, 25 miles to the south-east of Mainpuri, and had in 1901 a population of 2,203. There are two outlying hamlets. The village covers an area of 1,317 acres and pays land revenue to the amount of Rs. 1,800. Kusmara

possesses a post-office, a road bungalow, a village boys' school and girls' school, a cattle-pound, a cart *parao* and a bazar where a considerable local trade is carried on. The *zamindars* are Bachhal Thakurs and Brahmans. There is an old *khera* here, the ruined site of a fort once owned by the Raja of Mainpuri. At the 1840 settlement the Kusmara *taluqa*, of which this village formed part, was taken from the Raja and settled with *mukaddams*, who have since paid him a *malikana* only. A market is held in the village every Monday and Thursday.

MADHAN, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This village, in 27° 16′ N. and 78° 56′ E., lies 12 miles to the west of Mainpuri in the very corner of the pargana. The Isan, which flows to the south of the village, is bridged here and the metalled road from Kuraoli to Ghiror passes through the village. Madhan contains 12 hamlets and nine *mahals* covering an area of 3,582 acres, of which 1,659 acres are under cultivation, a portion of the cultivated area being irrigated from the Nagaria distributary of the Cawnpore Canal. The *zamindars* are Chauhans and Marwaris, who pay Rs. 3,560 a year as Government revenue. The population of the village in 1901 was 2,434, of whom 102 were *zamindars*, 1,289 cultivators, and 632 labourers. There is an old fort on the *khera*, which is occupied by the Chauhan Rajputs of the place. The village contains a vernacular school and a small bazar, and a market is held in it twice a week.

MAHULI SHAMSHERGANJ, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KISHNI.

This large village, in 27° N. and 79° 22′ E., lies in the furthest south-eastern corner of the district near Kishni and is named after the two principal inhabited sites. It contains 15 hamlets, with a population, according to the census of 1901, of 2,589 persons, and an area of 3,363 acres, and is assessed at Rs. 4,450. The village is held in *pattidari* tenure, the former Thakur *zamindars* having been replaced by Brahmans and Kayasths. The cultivators are for the most part occupancy tenants. A weekly market is held here on Sundays and Thursdays. Near the site of Mahuli proper there is an old and high *khera*.

MAINPURI, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

Mainpuri, the chief town of the district of the same name, lies in lat. 27° 14′ 15″ N. and long. 79° 3′ 5″ E., on the Agra branch of the Grand Trunk Road, 68 miles east of Agra, and on the Shikohabad-Farrukhabad branch of the East Indian Railway. According to the census of 1901 there were within municipal limits 19,000 inhabitants, of whom 13,955 were Hindus (6,365 females), 4,436 were Musalmans (2,019 females) and 609 were Christians and others. Since the census the municipal limits have been enlarged to include the railway station buildings, and the total population is estimated at 19,407. The town is divided into two distinct portions, Mainpuri proper and old Mainpuri, a sort of old fashioned village clustering at the foot of the Raja of Mainpuri's palace or *garhi* and composed of narrow lanes, with one narrow street leading to the *garhi*. The other and business quarter of the town lies along the Grand Trunk Road to the south of Mainpuri Khas, and is called Ganj or Muhkamganj. Each portion of the town is divided into wards for municipal purposes, two wards to each portion. In Mainpuri Khas the Misrana ward contains three *muhallas*, Katra, Misrana, and Chautiana, named after the clans that inhabit them; the Purohitana ward is subdivided into the Purohitana, Sotiana, Baghban and Bharatwal, the second and third deriving their names from the clans resident therein, and the first, the Purohitana, from the Raja's *purohits* or priests, while the Bharatwal *muhalla* is inhabited by Mathuria Brahmans. The two wards of Muhkamganj, Chhapaiti and Gariwan contain the Agarwala, Lohai and Chhapaiti *muhallas*, and the Gariwan, Saraogian and Dariba *muhallas* respectively, the first five being called after the clans resident in them. There were formerly walls round the city, and six gates, the Debi, Tal, Madar, Deoraya, and Ganesh Darwazas, the name of the sixth not being recorded. The river Isan bounds old Mainpuri on the east side, at some distance, separating it from the bulk of the civil station, and the railway line is the municipal boundary on the south. The Agra road runs through the town from east to west and forms a good wide street, lined on either side by shops, the principal bazar of the place. At the eastern entrance of the town to the

south of the road, lie the Mission buildings, just within municipal limits, and further on at the commencement of the town proper are various public buildings on the north side of the road, the general dispensary and Dufferin hospitals, the police station and the tahsil. Near the dispensary the Bhanwat road branches off, forming one of the two approach roads to the railway station, and beyond it on the south of the Agra road are the Mission school, also used as a church, the Arya Samaj meeting house, the Raikesmandi and the Raikesganj *sarai*. Both the two latter were built by Mr. Raikes, Collector of Mainpuri, between 1848 and 1850. Raikesmandi was at first occupied by grain-dealers and used as a grain-market until it was replaced as such by Laneganj 20 years later. It is now occupied by Native Christians who were originally settled by the American Mission, and now number about 200 persons. The Raikesganj, too, is not much used by shop-keepers, and is now a *sarai*, let out to *bhatiaras* by the municipality. It has an imposing gateway over which is a large room used as a municipal office and committee room. Opposite this *sarai* is the starting point of Laneganj, leading up to the Katra road, that forms the southern boundary of Old Mainpuri. Laneganj extends as far as the junction of the Kuraoli and Katra roads, and is now the principal grain market of the town. It is lined with shops and has a fine market attached, and a bathing tank covering half an acre and kept filled in the hot months from the canal channel running up to the south of the town from the Nagaria distributary. The tank is flanked at each corner by stone cupolas erected by prominent individuals at Mr. Lane's instance. The Aikman Union Club, the members of which are individuals of the better classes in the town, faces the tank and serves on occasions as a public hall. It was founded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aikman when Judge of Mainpuri in 1886-90. Further westwards on the Grand Trunk Road branches off the Kuraoli road, joined as above mentioned by the Laneganj, and beyond it is the Etawah road. Both are much frequented and are lined throughout by shops. South of the main road runs the Chamraudha drain, which crosses the road near the police station and flows into the Isan after being joined by other drainage lines. Further south between the town and

the railway is open ground, the railway station having, for motives of economy, been placed in the middle of an *usar* plain. Here are the brick-fields and a municipal trenching-ground, which aims at converting the *usar* into culturable land. A probable expansion of the town towards the railway will take place as soon as arrangements for making a road are completed. Besides the Bhanwat road another road approaches the railway station from the west, branching off from the Etawah road. In Mainpuri *khas* the principal buildings besides the Rajah's palace, which stands on an eminence and is composed of mud and brickwork, are the district school, at the northern entrance to Laneganj, and the town school. Both of these are situated on the Kuraoli road. To the east of the town school lies the Raja of Mainpuri's park, an open space planted with trees and fenced in, where public functions are occasionally held. About a mile from the outskirts of the town on the Kuraoli road is the temple of *Debi*, where a fair is held in the month of *Chait* after the *Holi*.

Local tradition says that the town was known as Mainpur in the days of the Pandavas, and was inhabited by Brahmans until the arrival of the Chauhans. The more recent tradition, however, is that the name is derived from one Main Deo, whose image is still to be seen at Tal Darwaza in Nagaria, a kind of suburb of the city. Main is there represented with a huge bridegroom's ruff on. He is said to have gone home on his wedding day and found his mother cooking and eating some rice in great haste. On being questioned by him she said that this was probably her last chance of a good meal now that her son was married. Main was so disgusted at this reply that he lay down and died. The story is clearly invented to connect the name and the image, which is probably one of the oldest relics of the place. Mainpuri seems to have been of no importance until the arrival of the Chauhans, who built a fort here, and around it the old town sprang up. After a contest with the Chirars the Chauhans came here from Asauli, under Raja Partab Rudr, about 1420—1448 *sambat* (1363—1391 A. D.), and with them came a number of fighting Brahmans of the Mathuria clan, who, even now that they have taken to the peaceful ways of trade,

preserve much of their character for turbulence. Muhkamganj was founded by Raja Jaswant Singh in 1803 *sambat* (1746 A. D.), and named after his illegitimate son or, as some say, childless brother, Muhkam Singh. By his influence, aided, it is said, by Khan Bahadur Khan, people flocked in large numbers to the new town, and especially from Karimganj, which dates its decadence from the rise of Mainpuri. In 1802 the civil station forming the headquarters of the Etawah district was founded by Mr. R. Cunynghame, and the Sadr Bazar was built, near which all the district public offices were erected. Thorn, who saw the place in 1804, describes it as then "a walled town of considerable size and very populous". A few days previously it had been attacked by the Marathas under Holkar, who plundered and burned part of it, but were repulsed from the jail and cantonments by the provincial militia, and fled precipitately on the approach of a relieving force. Owing to its position as the headquarters of a large district, population rapidly increased. Much was done to improve it by Mr. Raikes in 1848—1850, who built Raikesganj and a school, and by Mr. Lane in 1870, who built Laneganj, the masonry tank, tahsil, a market for *ghi* and cotton, a market for vegetable produce, a post-office, and schools, besides providing for the efficient surface-drainage of the city.

The municipality is managed by a board of eight elected and two nominated members, excluding the collector, who is usually elected as chairman. The income of the municipality averaged, in the five years up to 31st March 1909, Rs. 19,975, and is derived mostly from octroi, of which more than half is levied on articles of food, chiefly grain, *ghi* and sugar. The expenditure after paying for the octroi staff is devoted principally to conservancy, and to a less degree to lighting, education and public works. Most of the roads are paved or metalled, and the main roads are provided with brick drains, terminating in the surface-water main drains mentioned above. The board have in hand a proper drainage scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1,60,000.

The police force of the town consists of 32 constables and three head-constables distributed over three outposts at Ganeshganj, Karhal Darwaza and Agra Darwaza.

There is a fair trade in cotton, grain, iron and country produce. The inlaid *tarkashi* or brass wire work has been described in chapter I. There is a ginning mill at the east entrance of the town opposite the Mission compound.

The civil station is described below.

MAINPURI CIVIL STATION, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

Mainpuri civil station was constituted a notified area from the 1st of April 1909, and includes the small town of Gola Bazar, formerly administered under Act XX of 1856, as well as Nagla Chamaran near the latter, and Nagla Pazawa near the opium compound. Part of the civil station on the right bank of the Isan however is outside the notified area, and here are situated the civil courts, judge's residence, flag station and the canal office. The jail also, though on the left bank of the river, is excluded from the notified area limits. Two bridges over the Isan connect the civil station with the flag station and the city, and near the latter bridge, on the river bank, is the opium compound, with weighing sheds, offices and residences. A little further from the river, on a high site, lie the revenue and criminal courts and offices of the collector and magistrate, together with the district board, police, and Public Works offices. To the west of this group of buildings is the Awa Bagh, a cricket ground, and to the east the church, station club and two public gardens managed by the district board. Near by also are the jail and post and telegraph office, and the Public Works department rest-house and Opium officer's residence. Half a mile to the north-west is the Gola bazar, near which are the dâk bungalow, police lines and seven residential houses composing the greater bulk of the civil station. There are several drives round the civil station on both sides of the river. The cemetery lies about a mile to the north-west of the Gola Bazar. The population of the notified area is about 1,000, including the Gola Bazar, with 678 at the 1901 census. The notified area is managed by a committee consisting of the District Magistrate as president, the civil surgeon, the district engineer, and the sub-divisional magistrate of Mainpuri. A *panchayat*

assesses the house-tax, which amounts to Rs. 300 per annum, but the bungalows are assessed by a special sub-committee. The total (estimated) income for 1909-1910 amounted to Rs. 1,850, and included, in addition to house-tax, the income from the pound and *nazul* land receipts. The expenditure is devoted to lighting, sanitation and public works. The police force consists of two provincial *chaukidars* paid for by Government, and is housed in a building provided by the committee. A slaughter-house for horned cattle is maintained by the butchers of the Gola Bazar, and is supervised by the notified area.

MAINPURI *Pargana.*

Pargana Mainpuri lies roughly in the centre of the district, forming, with parganas Ghiror and Kuraoli, part of the Mainpuri tahsil. It is bounded on the east by pargana Bhongaon, on the south by Karhal, on the north by Kuraoli and on the west and south-west by Ghiror. The total area is 104,644 acres, or 163·51 square miles. The pargana is watered by three rivers, the Isan, the Arind, and the Kak Nadi, a tributary of the Isan, all flowing eastwards. The north-east of the pargana, about one-third of the whole, lies within the *bhur* tract, the rest within the central loam tract. Between the Isan and the Arind runs the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal, sending out several important distributaries. Irrigation from the canal is a feature of the southern loam tract, while the *bhur* has excellent well-capacity and contains numerous *jhils* of large size. There are *jhils* at Karimganj, Kankan, Manauna, Thorwa, Khichauli, Dharmangadpur and Barauli. The cultivated area at the recent settlement was 47,304 acres. In 1873 it was 50,498 acres, so that there has been a decrease. Part of this is merely nominal, being due to a more accurate survey, but an appreciable fraction is caused by the increase in the area under groves and village sites, and probably in the areas "covered with water" and taken up for canal distributaries and channels. The margin left for alternating fallow would also seem to have increased. The culturable area (waste and fallow) is 13,857 acres, and that under groves is 1,602 acres, an increase of 372 acres over the figures of the previous settlement. The figures

accepted as correct for the irrigable area at the recent and the former settlement are 38,839 and 37,460 acres, respectively. The actual area irrigated in a normal year is about half the cultivated area, and is almost up to the district average. Though the number of earthen wells has fallen, masonry wells have multiplied. The principal *rabi* crops are wheat and barley alone and in combination with gram and peas. Poppy is also largely grown, a great increase having taken place since last settlement. The chief *kharif* crops are *juar*, *bajra* (usually in combination with *arhar*), maize and rice, the area under maize having, here as elsewhere, largely increased of recent years. The double-cropped area has also extended. Lump rents on holdings of mixed soils are the rule, the grain-rented area being insignificant. The bulk of the tenants' area is held by occupancy tenants, 78 per cent. of the cash-rented area being in their hands. Non-occupancy rents have rapidly risen as a result of the recent abnormal rise in prices, and the average rental incidence per acre over the whole pargana is now Rs. 4·26 for occupancy holdings and Rs. 5·07 for non-occupancy holdings, the rates ranging from Rs. 11-2-0 for the best irrigated *gauhan* to Re. 1 for *maiyar*. Thakurs and Ahirs hold about one-half of the holdings area, and their rents are low. Brahmans, Kachhis, Lodhas and Chamars come next in order with a fair proportion of the whole. The revenue, excluding a nominal sum of Rs. 400 on a Government property, stands at Rs. 1,01,502 for the first five years of the existing settlement, Rs. 1,01,067 for the second and Rs. 1,01,132 for the remainder. The population of the pargana in 1901 was 83,134, as against 83,413 in 1872, a decrease of 279. The loss has been almost confined to the villages in the *bhur* tract, a circumstance which supports the statement made in the census report that the shrinkage was probably due to stress of bad seasons, and injury from floods and *kans* grass. During the decade 1881—1891 there was a good deal of emigration.

Mainpuri, the chief town of the pargana, is also the district headquarters, and a full description of it will be found in its own place. The single notified area is the Mainpuri civil station including the Gola Bazar, which has a population of about 1,000

and was brought under the operation of the Act merely for sanitary and administrative reasons. With the exception of the extensive tract to the north and north-west of Mainpuri town, which is quite innocent of roads, the pargana is well provided with communications. There is a metalled road from Bhongaon to Shikohabad which passes through Mainpuri, and gives communication with Agra. Other metalled roads lead from Mainpuri to Etawah and Kuraoli, while unmetalled roads connect the town with Kishni and Sirsaganj. The Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Railway traverses the centre of the pargana and connects Mainpuri with the outside world.

The 85 *mahals* which existed at last settlement have increased to 162, and the area held by communities has decreased from 62 to 48 per cent. of the whole, practically the entire difference having gone over to the single *zamindari* tenure. The average amount of land held by each proprietor is now 31 acres as compared with 51 in 1873. The largest individual *zamindar* is the Raja of Mainpuri, who holds full possession or shares in 24 villages, while he receives *haqq malikana* in 28 more amounting to Rs. 5,987 per annum. Other large proprietors are the Raja of Tirwa, the proprietor of the Kotla estate, and the Raja of Awa. The last-named has been adding to his property. Sixty-six thousand nine hundred and five acres out of the total area of 104,644 are held by Thakurs, mainly Chauhans, though Kachwahas and Jadon Thakurs are also numerous. The Chauhans have lost largely since the last settlement, when they held considerably over half the pargana. In some of their villages there is a minute subdivision of shares, particularly in the *biswadari* villages, such as Auren Panraria, Sathni Lalpur, Ujhaiya Faqirpur and Kankan. Brahmans, Kayasths, Ahirs, Khattris, Marwaris and Banias hold most of the remainder of the pargana, the three latter money-lending castes having established themselves during the period of the last settlement.

MAINPURI *Tahsil.*

Mainpuri tahsil comprises the parganas of Mainpuri, Kuraoli and Ghiror with a total area of 386·2 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Etah district, on the west by

parganas Mustafabad and Shikohadad, on the south-west and south by parganas Barnahal and Karhal, and on the east by pargana Bhongaon. The Kali Nadi flows along the northern boundary to the east with a narrow alluvial belt, to which succeed ridges of sand. Another spur of sandhills strikes off southwards, crossing the Kak Nadi, and the two rivers, with the Arind, carry off the drainage. The Sengar just touches the south of the tahsil. The Bewar, Etawah and Cawnpore branches of the Lower Ganges Canal traverse the tahsil, running along the watersheds of the rivers. In addition to the ridges of sand to the north, about one-third of Mainpuri pargana lies in the *bhur* tract, but the rest of the tahsil lies in the central loam tract and contains stretches of *usar* and several *jhils* of fair size.

The tahsil headquarters are at Mainpuri, a description of which will be found elsewhere. There are police stations at Mainpuri, Kuraoli and Ghiror, but parts of their circles go beyond the tahsil boundaries. Containing as it does the district headquarters, the tahsil has naturally the best communications of any in the district. Metalled roads connect it with the surrounding districts and with the most important places in the other tahsils, and the Grand Trunk Road from Delhi runs through the north of the tahsil. To complete the communications, however, roads to the west and north are required, particularly a road connecting Mainpuri with villages west of the Isan. In 1901 the population numbered 183,180, of whom 100,034 were males. Hindus were as usual in an enormous majority, Musalmans only mustering 11,746, while there were 1,484 representatives of other religions. Among the Hindus Ahirs greatly predominated, there being 32,021 of them, a total only exceeded in Shikohabad. Chamars came next with 23,515, and after them Kachhis with 18,131; Rajputs numbered 16,783 and Brahmans 13,034, and of the other castes the most numerous were Lodhas, 9,445; Gadariyas, 7,309; Kahars, 6,475; and Dhanuks, 4,993. There were 3,510 Mahajans, a greater number than in any other tahsil, but the other money-lending castes were comparatively scarce, only 858 members of the Bania caste being found and 139 Marwaris. Of the latter tribe, however, only 10 other representatives were recorded in the rest of the district.

MANCHHANA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 12′ N. and 79° 6′ E., is situated four miles south-east of Mainpuri near the Mainpuri-Saman road. Its population in 1901 was 2,161, consisting chiefly of Thakurs and Brahmans. There are seven subsidiary hamlets excluding Nagla Soti which lies within the *mauza*, but is a separate *mauza* in itself. There are 21 *mahals* owned mostly by the Raja of Mainpuri assessed to Rs. 3,131 land revenue. There is a village school. Formerly the village was important as giving its name to *taluqa* Manchhana now incorporated in Bhongaon and Mainpuri.

MUHAMMADPUR LABHAUA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 27° 11′ N. and 78° 39′ E., lies about three miles to the north of Shikohabad town and is usually known as Labhaua. It is a small village of 1,053 inhabitants with one hamlet assessed at Rs. 850 on a total area of only 387 acres. It is chiefly remarkable as the residence of the head of the Kirar clan of Rajputs, of whom Bhagwant Singh attained to great influence during the last decade of the eighteenth century. There are some fine buildings both here and in Shikohabad erected by this family, which is now represented by Thakur Laik Singh. He has recently set up a ginning factory in Sirsaganj, and owns a half interest in the concern. Kirar Ahirs, Brahmans and Kachhis are the principal castes in the village, which possesses a vernacular school, and is in the month of *Phagun* the scene of a fair known as the *Jalbahar*.

MUSTAFABAD, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 19′ N. and 78° 39′ E., is about 34 miles west of Mainpuri and 17 miles north of Shikohabad. Its population in 1901 numbered 1,934 persons, of whom 100 were *zamindars*, 844 cultivators, 39 traders and 299 labourers. Comprising six hamlets and eight *mahals*, the village covers an area of 1,632 acres, of which 746 acres are under cultivation. Musalmans, Thakurs, Brahmans and Banias are the *zamindars*, and pay Rs. 2,122 a year as land revenue. The tahsil headquarters,

which used to be situated here, have now been removed to Jasrana. The village is now insignificant. It possesses a post-office, a school and a bazar, and a market is held here twice a week. It is connected with Jasrana by a metalled road and by unmetalled roads with Shikohabad and Pharha. The village was named after one Mustafa Khan, a local magnate in the reign of Jahangir. A mud fort, now in ruins, was built by Sheo Ghulam, a Diwan of Almas Ali Khan, governor of the district under the Nawab of Oudh, at the end of the eighteenth century. Butchers and *Bihishtis* form the bulk of the Musalman population. An old well here is known as *Dudhadhari* from the purity of its water.

MUSTAFABAD *Pargana* and *Tahsil*.

Tahsil and pargana Mustafabad, on the western border of the district, is bounded on the north by the Etah district, on the east by parganas Ghiror and Mainpuri, on the south by pargana Shikohabad, and on the west by parganas Firozabad of Agra and Jalesar of Etah. Its area is 317·59 square miles, or 203,261 acres, and it contains 274 villages, 466 mahals and 848 inhabited sites. In shape it resembles a triangle with the apex to the north. It is traversed by the Arind, Senhar, Sengar and Sirsa rivers, which flow with courses broadly parallel to one another in a south-easterly direction. The Arind dries up in the cold season and leaves a broad belt of good alluvial soil, and the other two rivers, which also dry up in the cold season, though occasionally containing scattered pools and escaped canal water, afford a fair margin of *tarai*, but owing to the scanty supply in their beds and the height of the banks they are not much used for irrigation. The north-eastern portion of the tahsil is watered by the Cawnpore and Etawah branches of the Lower Ganges Canal, which run at a low level, and the Bhognipur branch of the same canal, introduced since the last settlement, flows perpendicularly down the centre of the tahsil; very little irrigation is available from any of these branches. A good deal of damage was caused at first by the last branch owing to saturation and interference with the natural drainage. The Lower Ganges feeder canal enters the pargana in its northern

corner four miles north of Gopalpur, where it feeds the Cawnpore branch, and thence runs to Jera, feeding the Etawah and Bhognipur branches. From Gopalpur this canal, with the Bhognipur branch, crosses all the drainage lines including the rivers above mentioned. The tahsil lies almost entirely in the central loam tract of the district, the only exception being the few sandy villages to the south-west of the Sirsa river on the Shikohabad border. The surface is in general uniformly level, except in those parts where it is subject to fluvial action or broken up into sandy ridges. There are three such lines of *bhur*, the largest running from pargana Jalesar through the tahsil to the Jamna ravines in Shikohabad at a considerable elevation above the surrounding country. A smaller line of sand follows the course of the Sirsa river, and a third occurs in the northern part of the tahsil with isolated patches in Bhadana and Ghagau. There are no extensive lowlying tracts, but *jhils* of fair size are met with at Kusiari, Shekhupur Hatwant, Paindhat, Dewa, Kailai, Utrara, Kana Kawa, Surel and Uresar. There is a certain amount of *usar*, but for the most part the soil is one wide level loam of great natural fertility. One great drawback, however, to its cultivation and prosperity is the *baisuri* weed which infects a large number of villages in a broad irregular belt from the north-west to the south-east. This weed seems to have spread during the last 30 years, and several villages are entirely overrun with it, though in the majority of cases only specific portions are affected by it. It is seldom found in *bhur* and practically never in lowlying clay, and is nearly always accompanied by brackish water, a fact which restricts the number of crops which can be sown in land affected by it, while the time and labour required for its removal add greatly to the expense of cultivation. As the leaves and stems wither in the rains the *kharif* crop is generally unaffected, and it does not seem to flourish in villages irrigated with canal water. For the *kharif* alone a *baisuri*-affected field lets for practically the same rent as an ordinary field, but when let for the *rabi* it fetches some 20 to 25 per cent. less.

The cultivated area is 115,905 acres, a decrease of 2,766 acres since last settlement, due to the decrease in the total area

according to the new survey. Ninety-four per cent. of this area is irrigable, the average figures for three years being 108,506 acres as compared with 99,844 at last settlement. Canal irrigation has increased appreciably since then; but the canal supply for the whole tahsil is still not large, forming only 19 per cent. of the whole, while wells furnish 79 per cent. and the area irrigated from wells is increasing rapidly. The natural well-capacity is nearly everywhere good; and durable earthen wells are generally possible except in parts near the canals where the character of the subsoil has been affected. There is no canal irrigation at all in the portion of the tahsil south of the Senhar river or in the extreme north of the tahsil. The actual irrigated area in a normal year is about 55 per cent. of the cultivated area —somewhat above the district average. The culturable area is 19,980 acres including waste and fallow, 2,571 acres are under groves and 64,804 acres are unculturable. The principal *rabi* crops are wheat and barley, alone and in combination with gram and peas, and the chief *kharif* crops are maize, cotton with *arhar*, and *juar* and *bajra* with *arhar*. The wheat cultivation has declined since last settlement, as have also sugarcane, indigo and cotton, the last named being, however, still an important staple. Their place has apparently been taken by the inferior and less irrigated crops, barley and gram. On the other hand the areas under poppy, cotton with *arhar*, tobacco, potatoes and other garden crops have been substantially expanding; and there is a tendency, as in the rest of the district, to double-cropping and mixed-cropping. But the double-cropped area is still relatively small, being only 14·6 per cent. of the whole cultivation.

The principal cultivating castes are Ahirs, Thakurs, Lodhas, Brahmans and Chamars, with a small sprinkling of Kachhis, who as usual pay the highest rents. Sixty-six per cent. of the total area is held by occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants, and only 18 per cent. by tenants-at-will, and the average size of occupancy holdings is now 4·36 acres, that of non-occupancy holdings being 3·29 acres. The rental incidence of the former has risen by 20·23 per cent., and of the latter by 62·35 per cent. since the last settlement, the average now being Rs. 5·17 per acre in the one case, and Rs. 6·90 per acre in the other.

The revenue demand is now Rs. 3,19,840. Over half the tahsil, *viz.* 114,241 acres, is still held by communities, mostly in imperfect *pattidari*. Single *zamindari* occupies 46,469 acres, and joint *zamindari* 38,352 acres, both the latter having considerably increased since last settlement. Of the individual castes Thakurs, mainly Chauhans and Jadons, are in a very large majority, still holding over one-half of the total area, though they lost one-sixth of their possessions during the last settlement period. Brahmans and Ahirs are the next largest owners, but the latter are hardly retaining their position. Among the traders and speculators in land who have been ousting the hereditary landowners the most prominent are the Marwaris of Khairgarh and Rampur and the Maheshri Banias. Musalmans and Kayasths have also slightly increased their possessions in recent years. The chief representatives of the Chauhan Thakurs are the Raja of Eka; Kunwar Dirgpal Singh and Kunwar Sultan Singh of Uresar; and Thakur Pancham Singh of Darapur Milaoli. The Jadons are represented by the Raja of Awa, Thakur Umrao Singh and the *rais* of Kotla. The chief Ahir proprietor is Chaudhri Sarnam Singh of Bharaul in pargana Shikohabad, and Haji Abdul Rahman Khan of Parham is the most important Musalman.

The population, which at the 1872 census was 155,476, rose in 1881 to 162,201, but fell during the next decade to 155,253. This decrease was general throughout the district and its causes have been discussed elsewhere. At the last census the total was 163,180, giving a density of 515 per square mile of total area, and 901 per square mile of cultivation. The preponderance of Hindus was as usual enormous, only 9,663 Musalmans being returned for the whole tahsil. Among the Hindus Ahirs largely predominated, with 29,506 representatives, Chamars coming next with 20,577. Other important castes were Lodhas, 15,356; Rajputs, 9,714; Brahmans, 11,891; Kachhis, 8,243; and Gadariyas, 7,553. No other caste had as many as 4,000 representatives, though Banias, with 3,949, were only just under this limit.

The tahsil headquarters have been removed from Mustafabad to Jasrana, the latter being more accessible from headquarters, but neither of them is anything more than a village.

The other chief villages and local market places are Pharha, Parham, Eka, Baragaon, Uresar, Paindhat, Rampur and Khairgarh. The two latter are remarkable for the number of wealthy Marwaris settled in them, and Pharha, near the Agra border, is the most important trading mart in the tahsil and the only Act XX town. Paindhat is noted for its shrine, which attracts thousands of pilgrims twice a year in *Magh* and *Asarh*.

There is no railway in the tahsil, but the Makhanpur station on the East Indian Railway almost adjoins its extreme south-west boundary, and the new Shikohabad-Farrukhabad line passes within a few miles of its south-east corner. The stations of Kosma, Shikohabad, Firozabad and Jalesar also lie within reach. A metalled road runs from Etah to Shikohabad through Jasrana, and there is another from Mustafabad to Jasrana and on to Ghiror and Kosma. Unmetalled roads connect Mustafabad with Pharha, Shikohabad, Kailai and Kharit, and there are other smaller roads branching off from the canal bridges at Kusiari, Baragaon, Kheria, Patikra, Jera, Katana and Fatehpur Pat. A new road from Mustafabad to Khairgarh and Makhanpur station would open up the south-west of the tahsil. The tahsil is in the charge of a subdivisional officer stationed at Mainpuri, and magisterial powers are also exercised by the tahsildar. Kunwar Dirgpal Singh, a Chauhan *zamindar* and local notable, exercises honorary magisterial powers at Uresar and has jurisdiction within the Eka police circle. There are police stations at Mustafabad (now temporarily located in Jasrana and Pharha) and Eka, the circles of which are contained entirely in and are conterminous with the tahsil boundaries.

NABIGANJ, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 12′ N. and 79° 28′ E., lies on the Grand Trunk Road about 14 miles east of Bhongaon. The population was 1,065 in 1901. A good deal of business is done in supplying the wants of travellers along the road, and a *sarai* on the roadside built by Khan Bahadur Khan affords them accommodation. The area of the village is 775 acres and the land revenue is Rs. 1,456. There is one hamlet. The original *zamindars* were Bais Thakurs, who were noted dacoits and were sold up in 1840,

their rights being purchased by the Chauhans of Bhadai, Chirawar, and Arjunpur.

NAUNER, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MAINPURI.

This large village, in 27° 15′ N. and 78° 58′ E., lies eight miles to the west of Mainpuri, a little removed from the Agra branch of the Grand Trunk Road and situated on a high *khera* or mound. It comprises two *mahals* covering an area of 10,117 acres, of which 3,902 acres are under cultivation, assessed at Rs. 10,860. The population in 1901 numbered 6,020, of whom 304 were *zamindars*, 3,397 cultivators and 297 labourers. There are no less than 42 hamlets. Chauhan Thakurs and Brahmans form the bulk of the population. Nauner is noted for its large number of wells and tanks said to have been constructed by one Bhola, an Ahir, who is said to have owned the village some two centuries ago. His praises are still celebrated in rural songs by the Ghosi Ahirs of this and neighbouring villages. Nauner afterwards passed into the hands of the Chauhans, from whom it was acquired by its present owners, the Raja of Awa in the Etah district and the Thakur of Kotla. The village contains a school for boys and another for girls. The *garhi* or fort which is now occupied by Brahmans is said to have been built by Almas Ali Khan, the governor under the Nawab Wazir of Oudh.

ORAWAR HASHT TARAF, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This big village, in 26° 58′ N. and 78° 44′ E., is situated among the ravines on the left bank of the Jamna river. Its area is 6,896 acres, and its population in 1901 was 4,265. It is a *pattidari* village, consisting of 21 hamlets, and pays a revenue of Rs. 6,550. The *zamindars* are Ahirs and Brahmans, one of the most important being Panchi Lal, a retired *subadar*. The inhabitants, who are almost all cultivators, are Ahirs, Brahmans and Chamars. There are two vernacular primary schools in the village, which has a certain amount of trade in grain and *ghi*. The village also contains a temple of Kali Devi, where a religious fair is held every year in the month of *Chait*. The principal feature of the village is the *bhagna*, a very fertile silted bed of the Jumna which has been described in chapter I.

PAINDHAT, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 21′ N. and 78° 39′ E., lies 29 miles west of Mainpuri and nine miles north-west of Jasrana. Its population in 1901 numbered 2,423 persons, of whom 76 were *zamindars*, 1,244 cultivators and 610 labourers. Classified according to religion there were 2,141 Hindus, 219 Musalmans and 63 others. The village consists of 23 *mahals*, with nine hamlets covering a total area of 2,975 acres, of which 1,431 acres are under cultivation, more than half the cultivated area being irrigated. The *zamindars* are Ahirs and Marwaris, who pay Rs. 3,750 as land revenue. Unimportant in itself, Paindhat is famous for the large gatherings which meet at the shrine of Jokhaiya in *Magh* and *Asarh*. There is no fixed day, but the Sundays in the latter fortnights of those months called *jat* are chosen. The story runs that during the war between Prithiraj and Jaichand of Kanauj an Ahir was bringing home his wife, and with him were a Brahman and a low-caste man, a *Bhangi* or a *Dhanuk*. The three men joined in the fight and were killed, the *Bhangi* first and the other two at some distance from him. Even when dead, however, their headless trunks (*rund*) continued the fight. The *Bhangi* became a ghost (*bhut*), as is so often the unpleasant habit of low-caste men, under the name of Jokhaiya, and the place where he fell is called Jokhaiya to this day. Droves of pigs are grazed here, and part of the ritual at the great gatherings is to have one of them killed and to allow its blood to flow on the spot where the *Bhangi* fell. At the other spot in the village, where the Brahman and the Ahir were killed, there is a temple, where cocoanuts and the like are offered. People come in thousands from the surrounding districts, even from Farrukhabad, on the opposite side of the district, to pay their devotions here. The great object of the journey is to obtain offspring and have an easy childbirth. The *mela* is said to also have a good influence on the *mahawat* or winter rains. The offerings made at the temple belong to the *zamindars*.

PARHAM OR PADHAM, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 20′ N. and 78° 46′ E., is situated on the highroad to Etah near the Arind river, at a distance of 23 miles

from Mainpuri and 18 miles from Shikohabad. It consists of one *mahal*, covering a total area of 5,361 acres, of which 3,367 are under cultivation, while more than three-quarters of the cultivated area is irrigated. The land revenue is Rs. 10,300. *Mauza* Parham includes *mauza* Milak distributed *khitbat* throughout its area, and contains also within its boundaries *mauza* Bahlolpur. There are 27 hamlets. The population in 1901 was 6,514, made up of 3,480 males and 3,034 females. Classified according to religions there were 5,356 Hindus, 964 Musalmans and 194 others. The village contains a vernacular school, a post-office and a bazar, and a market is held in it twice a week. The *zamindars* are Thakurs and Musalmans, and were, until recent times, entirely Musalmans. The place, however, has an old history. It is said to have been called Bardan before the time of Raja Parikshit, who changed its name to Parichhatgarh or Parham. When he died of a snake-bite, his son Janamejaya made a great sacrifice on the banks of the Arind. The sacrificial pit was excavated many years ago, and cocoanuts, cloves and betel-nuts used in Hindu worship were found buried in it. Popular belief declares that in this neighbourhood snakes are still harmless in consequence of the virtues of that sacrifice. The story connecting Parham with Janamejaya's sacrifice is, however, looked upon with qualified respect even among the Hindus of the place and is contrary to the more generally received tradition. There is a masonry tank at this place, said to have been built by Janamejaya to mark the site of the sacrificial pit, which is still known as Parikshit Kund. The *khera* close to the village is a very large and high one, the most conspicuous in the district, and there are on it the ruins of a fort, some stone sculptures, and a well called after Parikshit.

PARIAR, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 26° 56′ N. and 78° 45′ E., lies among the ravines about a mile from the Jamna and five miles from Bhadan railway station. It had in 1901 a population of 2,557 persons, and its area is 5,010 acres. There are 11 hamlets. It is a very complicated *pattidari* village paying Rs. 3,930 in land

revenue. The *zamindars*, who are co-sharers with mostly minute shares, are continually quarrelling in the courts and out of them. There are 11 hamlets attached to the parent village, which contains a school. *Mauza* Saruppur Shamlat is partly contained in *mauzas* Pariar, Chhidaoli, Ruria and Papri. There is an old loop of the Jamna (described in chapter I) in this village, now silted up, of the same nature as the *bhagna* of Orawar, but less valuable than the latter.

PATARA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 5′ N. and 79° 9′ E., is situated 8 miles to the north-east of Karhal, and had in 1901 a population of 1,075 persons distributed over eight sites. It covers an area of 5,121 acres, assessed at Rs. 6,120. The village is owned by Bansi Dhar and Ganga Parshad, Banias, of Cawnpore, and the cultivators are mostly Thakurs and Ahirs. There are two market-days every week, and once a year a fair, known as Barnath, is held in the village and attended by shopkeepers from Mainpuri and Etawah. Both the fair and a well in the village are named after a Bairagi of great repute for sanctity who once lived here. He is now worshipped, and the offerings made by devout persons are appropriated by the present Bairagi of the name of Ram Das who acts as priest.

PHARENJI, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 26° 59′ N. and 79° 17′ E., lies a little to the west of the Etawah-Farrukhabad road three miles from Kishni. In 1901 it had a population of 2,066, consisting mainly of Brahmans, Ahirs, Thakurs, and Kachhis. There are six subsidiary hamlets. There is only one *mahal* owned by the Raja of Mainpuri. There is a village school, and a large *jhil* to the south of the site drains into the great Sirsainawar *jhil* in the Etawah district.

PHARHA or PHARIHA, *Pargana*, and *Tahsil* MUSTAFABAD.

This village, in 27° 20′ N., and 78° 32′ E., lies on the western border of the district about 40 miles from Mainpuri and

eight miles from Mustafabad. It is the only town in the district, with the exception of Sirsaganj, which has any considerable external trade, but is not otherwise important. Its population in 1901 numbered 2,885 persons, of whom 1,642 were males and 1,243 females. Classified according to occupation there were 52 *zamindars*, 796 cultivators, 589 traders, 107 artisans and 239 labourers, and classified according to religion there were 1,855 Hindus, 672 Musalmans and 358 others. The village consists of one *mahal* with 11 hamlets covering an area of 1,578 acres, of which 995 acres are under cultivation. Nearly three-quarters of the cultivated area are provided with irrigation. The *zamindars* are Jadon Thakurs, who pay Rs. 3,400 as revenue. The village possesses a police outpost, a post-office, a school and a bazar, and a market is held in it twice a week where grain, *ghi*, sugar, cotton, and other country produce are sold. A fair is also held here every year. The village is administered under Act XX of 1856, the cost being defrayed from a house-tax levied on 414 of the 1,041 houses in the place. Kunwar Kushalpal Singh of Kotla has started a model farm here which has been very successful so far. A second-class road, which it is proposed to metal, connects the town with Mustafabad; it is also proposed to continue the metalled road to Kotla in the Agra district.

PUNDRI, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This village, in 27° 8′ N. and 79° 13′ E., lies 11 miles to the east of Mainpuri and two miles to the north of the Cawnpore Canal. In 1901 its population was 2,374, consisting mainly of Thakurs and Kachhis, distributed over 14 hamlets in addition to the main site. There is one *mahal* assessed at Rs. 3,150 and owned by the family of Kunwar Kushalpal Singh.

RAPRI, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This village, in 26° 59′ N. and 78° 32′ E., lies among the ravines on the left bank of the Jamna, about 44 miles from Mainpuri east of the Shikohabad-Batesar road. It is now a small and unimportant village with a population of only 900

though both its history and the numerous ruins of buildings, mosques, tombs, wells and reservoirs, attest its former greatness. Local tradition ascribes its foundation to one Rao Zorawar Sen, also known as Rapar Sen, whose descendant fell in battle with Muhammad Sam, in 1194. The *ghat* across the Jamna to Batesar is known as Narangi Bah, and is said to derive its name from Naurangi, the daughter of Rapar Sen, for whose pleasure a garden was planted there. In course of time the name was corrupted to *Narangi*, an orange tree. There are now no traces of the garden, but tradition places it near Papardanda, otherwise known as Behar-*Ghat*. The general history of Rapri, and the important Ala-ud-din Khilji inscription, have been noticed in the history of the district. Many of the buildings were erected by Sher Shah and Salim Shah, and traces of the gate leading to one of the royal residences still exist. Besides the *idgah*, built in 1312, the *dargah* of Shah Fidu, a celebrated saint, is of considerable importance, attracting large numbers of the devout, who attend a yearly *urs* at his shrine. He is said to have been a worshipper of the one God, irrespective of creed, and many miracles attested his power. From its position on the road to Batesar, where the great fair is held every year in *Kartik*, Rapri must always have been an important place. It is now connected by good fair-weather roads with the railway station of Kaurara and the town of Sirsaganj, and also with the village of Nasirpur, whence a metalled road runs to Shikohabad. The latter is the main route of pilgrims to the Batesar fair, and will be metalled shortly as far as the river crossing, where a pontoon bridge is maintained by the Agra district board during the dry season. Near the site of the bridge is a small hamlet now inhabited by Mallahs, Dhobis and Bhangis, and formerly owned by Brahmans, who emigrated thence to Karhal. Not far from the bridge, near the hamlet of Parauli, is a temple built by Bhagwant Singh on the site of a burning-*ghat*. There are in all four hamlets. A police outpost commands the river crossing.

SAHAN, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 5′ N. and 79° 5′ E., lies about 10 miles to the south of Mainpuri, north of and close to the Gangsi

distributary. Its population was 2,186 in 1901 and its area at the recent settlement 4,315 acres. The village is divided into 10 *mahals,* assessed at Rs. 3,426, and is owned by the Raja of Mainpuri and some local Thakurs. There are 10 hamlets. The cultivators are mostly Thakurs and Ahirs who have acquired occupancy rights. The village possesses a *halqa-bandi* school, and is every year the scene of a local fair in the middle of the month of *Baisakh.* The village is proposed as the new headquarters of the Kurra police circle, as the police station there is a wretched building and not in a central position.

SAHARA, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This large village, in 27° 23′ N. and 79° 13′ E., lies some 10 miles to the west of Bhongaon. Its population in 1901 was 2,868 distributed over 12 sites and its area at the settlement was 2,899 acres. The village lands are held in *pattidari* tenure, paying a revenue of Rs. 3,510. Most of the area is held by the proprietors as *sir* or by occupancy tenants. A canal minor flows through the village lands, providing the means of irrigation. There is a school in the village.

SAMAN, *Pargana* KISHNI, *Tahsil* BHONGAON.

This huge village, in 27° 2′ N. and 79° 14′ E., comprising 17 hamlets, lies some 20 miles to the south of Bhongoan at the junction of the Kishni-Sirsaganj, and Mainpuri-Saman unmetalled roads, and had in 1901 a population of 5,536. It is owned by a resident Thakur of the name of Kunwar Bhagwan Singh, who is an honorary magistrate and village munsif, and the cultivators are mostly occupancy tenants. The big Gangsi distributary runs along the whole length of the village, which is thus excellently provided with means of irrigation, and contains a canal bungalow. There are a number of shops here and a school, while markets are held twice a week on Thursdays and Sundays. There is a large *jhil* to the west of the inhabited site. Saman with *mauza* Basait once formed part of the Kishni *taluqa,* but was separated from it at the third settlement. There are village banks at Saman and Basait.

SAUJ, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* KARHAL.

This village, in 27° 2′ N. and 79° 12′ E., is situated on the Kishni-Karhal road 24 miles from Mainpuri and 13 miles from Karhal. In 1901 it had a population of 2,797 persons, while its area at the last settlement was 5,032 acres assessed at Rs. 4,700 land revenue. The *zamindars* are Chaube Brahmans of Mainpuri and Thakurs of Jagannathpur in Etawah, and the cultivators are mostly occupancy tenants. There is a *halqabandi* school in the village, which is an old one containing on its *khera* the remains of an ancient fortress. In the early days of British rule Sauj was the chief town of a pargana of the same name, but the pargana was dismembered in 1840, 25 of its villages being transferred to Mainpuri and 17 to Karhal. The village is large and straggling, containing 26 hamlets. There is a large *jhil* close by the main site.

SHIKOHABAD, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This town, in 27° 7′ N. and 78° 40′ E., is situated on the Agra-Mainpuri road about two miles from the railway station of the same name and 30 miles from Mainpuri city. It is connected by metalled roads with Mainpuri, Agra, Etah and Sirsaganj, and with Etawah by a road which is not metalled beyond Sirsaganj; also with Batesar by a road metalled as far as Nasirpur. The town lies to the east and south of the road, but the principal bazar lines the road itself, and there are a number of *sarais* scattered about the site. The old town is a straggling place, divided into quarters by crooked lanes and inconvenient roads. The principal bazar is irregular in shape and filled, like the whole of the old town, with ruinous houses. It is only beyond it, in the new quarter and the new bazar, that good houses and shops are to be seen. Beyond the new market is the mound on which the fort formerly stood, which is now covered with houses of the better sort. The water of the wells in the new quarter is sweet and good, but in the old town it is often brackish and undrinkable. The want of good drainage is the great defect in the site of Shikohabad, for, except the fort mound, there is no rising ground, and the whole neighbourhood is remarkably level. To remedy this Sultan Ali Khan caused a tank to be excavated a

little way to the north of the site which is still capable of receiving the drainage on that side, while the surplus water from the south might be led into the Sirsa Nadi which flows close to the town on the southern side.

In 1901 the population of the town was 11,139, Hindus being to Musalmans in the proportion of three to two. The lands belonging to the town are assessed at Rs. 1,780 for purposes of land revenue. The town is administered as a notified area. A force of one head constable and 18 constables is entertained and paid for from provincial funds. The main heads of expenditure are conservancy and lighting (Rs. 2,000) and public works (Rs. 1,400). The expenditure is met mainly by a house-tax, which in 1908 yielded Rs. 2,590, sale of manure, slaughter-house fees and other sources. The number of houses in the town is 3,220, of which 1,504 are assessed to house-tax. There are 14 *muhallas* or wards in the town. The Musalmans reside principally in the northern and eastern *muhallas*, and the Hindus in the southern and western, but there are also points where the population is mixed. *Muhalla* Katra Miran was founded by Sultan Ali Khan of the Naushahra family already mentioned, and Katra Muhammad Mah by a Saiyid follower of Dara Shikoh, while Katra Mir Khalil is named after a Saiyid landholder who fell in some local disturbance and whose tomb is visited on holidays as that of a martyr. Qazi Tola was founded by Qazi Asad Ali of the family of Qazi Shaikh Muhammad Jalil, who obtained that office in the reign of Aurangzeb. *Muhalla* Khattriana is inhabited by Khattris and is the richest ward of the town, the houses being built of brick and adorned with a good deal of stone ornamentation. Phulapurena is occupied chiefly by Banias, Brahmans and Kayasths, and Rukinpur is inhabited mostly by Pathans, Shaikhs and other Musalmans. *Muhalla* Khera forms the oldest part of the town, somewhat detached from the modern part. It is marked by an old fort, once the residence of Saiyid Sultan Ali Khan, and subsequently used as a tahsil but now unoccupied. The other important *muhallas* are Misrana, Garhiya, Chah Rahat and the old bazars.

The town was formerly a great emporium for cotton, but the trade has declined for some time past, though it may be hoped that

the three ginning factories set up recently in the town will do something to restore it to its old importance. A good deal of business is done in *ghi* and gram as well as in cotton. The fact that Shikohabad has now become an important junction should be a great stimulus to its trade. The tahsil building stands at the junction of the railway station road and the Grand Trunk Road adjoining the police station, and near it are the post-office, dispensary, civil court and town school. There is also a well-attended girls' school in the town. The Etawah branch canal flows close by Shikohabad, and a fine garden has been laid out beside it by Lala Pati Ram. Travellers are accommodated in a dak bungalow and inspection house, and there is also a large *sarai*.

The site now occupied by the town is said to have been colonised by a Musalman emigrant from Rapri named Muhammad, who gave it the name of Muhammadabad, by which it is known even now. This was changed to Shikohabad in honour of Dara Shikoh when Badr-us-Salam was governor. Under the Marathas the governor was Mura Pandit, who built the fort to the north of the town. One of the fine towers, in which there is the *dargah* of Kadir Ali Shahid, still remains. To the west of the town the Muraganj bazar still commemorates the name of the Maratha *amil*. It was here that the transit duties were collected on goods crossing the Jamna, and a *sayar chabutra*, or excise post, was maintained until abolished by the British. Shikohabad fell successively under the Marathas, Jats, Rohillas, the Marathas again, Himmat Goshain and the Oudh Nawab. Almas Ali Khan was governor on behalf of the Nawab up to the time of the British occupation, Sewa Ram being *amil* under him and Pharha Mal *diwan*. The British obtained possession in 1801 and established a cantonment here to the south-west of the town near the Sirsa, where the graves of Europeans are still to be seen. It was here that a Maratha force under Fleury in 1802 surprised the British detachment, after which the cantonments were removed to Mainpuri.

Amongst the notable men connected with Shikohabad mention may be made of Nawab Mahtab Khan, who rose from the rank of a common soldier to high distinction. Two members of his

family, Muhammad Ramzan Khan and Muhammad Taj Khan, were pensioners of the British Government after the acquisition of the Mainpuri district. The Qanungo family of Kanji Mal, hereditary Qanungo of pargana Rapri under the Mughals, is still of some importance and influence in the town, Babu Sri Narain of Madanpur being its present head. One Mokand Misr, a Kanaujia Brahman, built a temple on the borders of Chah Rahat and Qazi Tola *muhallas* about the middle of the 17th century, and annually on the second day of *Chait* a religious fair takes place at his tomb. He is said to have been buried alive with his dog in the grave which he dug for himself in the garden where his tomb now exists. Among the Agarwal Banias, Suraj Sahai was a person of some consequence, and among the Khattris, Diwan Ramji and Diwan Khushal Rai came here from Delhi and attained to some distinction under the Musalman governors. Their descendants still reside in the town. Some of the Kayasths were *diwans* under the Marathas and possess a few villages as landholders or are employed under the Government.

At Nagla Brindaban there is a temple to Mahadeo, a *chatri* and a *bisrant*, under the care of a Bairagi colony from very ancient times. The place was formerly covered with jungle and was the abode of an ascetic, near whose residence some Raja built a temple. The Bairagis then occupied the place and one of their number named Mangla built the *bisrant* on the Aganga. The name of that stream is explained on this wise: Mangla was a great saint and worker of miracles, and at the time of the great bathing fair of Kartik was unable or unwilling to go to the sacred stream of the Ganges to perform his ablutions there. His *chela* or disciple was much affected at this and remonstrated with Mangla, who merely said *Ao Ganga* (come Ganges), whereupon a stream at once burst out beneath his feet and has ever since borne the name of Aoganga or Aganga. The banks of this stream are a favourite place for burning the dead, and though in reality only a small drainage line which dries up immediately after the rains, local legend asserts that it sinks into the ground and joins the Ganges near Kanauj. One hundred *bighas* of land are held rent-free in

Chitaoli village to support this shrine, which is surrounded by numerous tombs of former heads of the Bairagi community, and on Hindu holidays, especially the *Dasahra*, considerable crowds assemble to offer their devotions before the shrine of Mangla. To the west of the town, about half a mile away, is the *takia* of Billichor, so called from a *faqir* whose cat was killed here by a Mewati robber from Khairgarh, who suffered for his impiety. To the north-west is the site of the mud fort, built by one Saiyid Ali Asghar, and to the west, near *muhalla* Muhammad Mah, is the *idgah*. To the south of the town and about a mile distant is the garden of a pious Mali named Toriya, where a fair is held and an image of Mahadeo is placed on a temporary platform and worshipped. A temple dedicated to Panch-mukhi Mahadeo exists to the north, near the bastion of the old fort which contains the tomb of Kadir Ali Shahid. Other temples are that to Radha Ballabh in the Chah Rahat quarter; to Murli Manohar on the south; to Baldeoji in the great bazar; and to Rama in the *mandi*. There are also two *sangats* of Nanak Panthi *faqirs* whose cemetery lies to the south of the town. Close to Qazi Tola is a fine garden and building erected by Thakur Bhagwant Singh, who possessed great influence in the town during the eighteenth century. To the south of the town, again, is the shrine of Jasan Deota, at which offerings of *chapatis* and *khir* are made when cattle bring forth their young.

SHIKOHABAD *Tahsil* and *Pargana*.

Tahsil and pargana Shikohabad occupies the south-western corner of the district. On the south and west it is bounded by the Agra district, with the river Jamna as the dividing line on the south; on the north by Mustafabad and Ghiror; on the east by pargana Barnahal, with the Etawah district at the south-east corner. Its total area is 188,416 acres, or 294·4 square miles, and it contains 297 *mauzas* with 595 *mahals* and 685 inhabited sites.

The pargana is well provided with natural drainage, the Sengar running through the northern portion, the Sirsa through the centre, and the Jamna along the south, while the tract between the Sengar and Sirsa is served by the Aganga. The

latter is, however, a small and sluggish stream with a scarcely defined bed, and its drainage is not, therefore, very effective in wet seasons. The pargana lies partly in the central *dumat* tract, but the bulk of it falls within the light loam or *bhur* tract. Five fairly distinct stretches of country are recognizable. The first comprises 20 villages along the Sengar and consists chiefly of loam and *usar*, though a high ridge of sand runs through the centre along the left bank with light loam in the neighbourhood. This tract has a good deal of stable canal irrigation. The second is a continuation of the main portion of Mustafabad, which it closely resembles, though it has more good *jhils*. A few villages on the border have the *baisuri* weed. The third tract extends along the Sirsa river and, with the exception of the big *bhur* spur crossing it to the east, comprises all the villages, lying one or two deep, on either side of that stream, from the town of Shikohabad to Ukhrend. The soil is the finest light loam or *pira*, more friable and easily worked than *dumat*, and capable of producing all kinds of crops to perfection. There is no *usar* and nearly the whole area is cultivated, while there is ample irrigation both from wells and the canal, and the cultivators are largely of the best classes. The only drawback is that since the opening of the Bhognipur Canal a good many villages of this tract are apt to get too much water and to suffer from actual waterlogging occasionally and from over-dampness and chilliness of the soil more or less always. Some of them have deteriorated, apparently for this reason. The fourth tract comprises the remaining villages of the pargana other than those intersected by the ravines of the Jamna or lying along that river. The predominant element here is sand, and though in places there is a good deal of light *pira* of productive quality, the soil is generally very thin, degenerating at times into miserable rolling sand of the poorest description. Irrigation is usually difficult and insufficient and the less industrious and skilful castes, such as Ahirs, prevail among the cultivators. The tract is therefore comparatively a poor and precarious one, though it has improved in places where the Bhognipur Canal water now reaches. The fifth tract takes in the villages along the Jumna and its ravines. It is locally called the *karkha* and is unique in the district. An

ordinary typical village has three portions, first, the portion to the north, lying still on the plateau level of the rest of the pargana. This is called the *uparhar*, a term which explains itself. From this a series of extensive, intricate and deep ravines, alternating with high spurs and ridges, clothed usually with low trees, scrub and coarse vegetation, but often bare, begins to radiate downwards and continue to the Jamna. This is the second portion of the typical ravine village, locally known as *behar*. It generally occupies the greater part of the whole village area. Between the ravines, however, and the Jamna, at the foot of the high cliffs, there is frequently a shelf, or series of shelves of lowlying arable land, called *kachhar* in the case of the upper ledges, while the lowest ledge of all, a strip of moist soil along the water's edge, bears the special name of *tir*. Cultivation is practically confined to the *uparhar* and *kachhar*, though patches of arable soil occur in the *behar*, and are called *danda* when found at the top of the ravines, and *jhori* when at the foot. The *uparhar* soil is similar to that of the neighbouring portions of the fourth tract, but irrigation is usually difficult and scanty. The soil in the *kachhar* varies. When it is beyond the reach of the river floods it deteriorates, but on the whole it is fairly fertile. The *tir* is rich when available.

The Jamna has here a very contorted course, though it has not changed its bed to any appreciable extent within recent times. But in three villages of this tract there is, in addition to the typical soils already described, another locally known as *bhagna*, occurring along what is undoubtedly an old bed of the Jamna. It is rich and moist and, though wells are sometimes dug, can produce good double-crops year after year without any artificial application of water. The village sites in this tract are usually perched on the top of high cliffs and look like mountain fastnesses, which indeed in the turbulent past they seem to have been.

The cultivated area of the tahsil is now 125,146 acres as compared with 128,945 at the previous settlement. Of this 95,805 acres are irrigable, an increase of 13,732 acres in the 30 years, chiefly due to the new Bhognipur Canal, which has supplanted well irrigation over a considerable area. The irrigated

area in a normal year is 45 per cent. of the total cultivated area, the third lowest in the district, but in the *karkha* the percentage is of course considerably below that of any other tract. But though there has been a great falling off in the number of earthen wells, masonry wells have multiplied. The culturable area (waste and fallow) is 11,654 acres and the non-culturable 49,262 acres, while 2,354 acres are planted with groves. The principal crops grown in the *rabi* are wheat, barley and gram, alone and in combination, and a considerable area is now under poppy, a new development. In the *kharif* the chief crops are *bajra*, *juar* and cotton, grown alone or in combination with *arhar* and maize.

Ahirs are largely predominant among the cultivators, but there are also large numbers of Thakurs, including Kirars, and of Brahmans, and a good sprinkling of Kachhis, Lodhas and Chamars. The tahsil has therefore among its great diversity of tenants a fair proportion of the better cultivating castes. Occupancy tenants hold 57 per cent. of the total holdings area, rather less than in other parganas, but here as elsewhere the average size of the holdings has diminished. The average incidence per acre of occupancy rentals is Rs. 4·36 and of non-occupancy rentals Rs. 5·15, the increase since the last settlement being 16·58 per cent. for the former and 47·14 per cent. for the latter. The rent rates vary from Rs. 11-9-0 for the best quality of irrigated *gauhan* to Re. 1-4-0 for the worst soils in the ravines.

The revenue demand is now Rs. 2,81,056. All kinds of tenures exist from single *zamindari* to the several forms of communal proprietorship, the *bhaiyachara* form being found mostly among the Ahir communities owning the Jamna villages in 17 *mahals* of 10,541 acres. Though single *zamindari* has more than doubled since last settlement, 62·5 per cent. of the tahsil is still held by co-parcenary communities, mostly imperfect *pattidari* and consisting mainly of Ahirs and Thakurs, who are in the majority of cases petty peasant proprietors, often hardly as well off as their tenants. A striking exception to this statement is the Ahir community of Bharaul, in the north of the pargana, whose head is Chaudhri Sarnam Singh. This body now owns 17 villages in this district in whole or in part. A portion of their property was received in reward for loyal service in the Mutiny, when

they led the combination which repelled the rebel Raja of Mainpuri from his attack on Shikohabad. Ahirs head the list of the landholding castes with 52,700 acres, Thakurs coming next with 46,405 acres, of which more than half belongs to Kirars. Brahmans own 33,083 acres, Kayasths 14,291, Musalmans 6,463, and the money-lending castes, Banias, Mahajans and Khattris, hold 22,663 acres. These latter have been steadily extending their possessions during the last 30 years at the expense of the old hereditary castes.

Of the leading landholders Thakur Laik Singh, a Kirar, is perhaps the largest, owning Muhammadpur Labhaua, where he resides, and a number of other villages which are well managed. The Raja of Bhadawar in the Agra district owns the two *kachhar* villages of Bhartar and Kalianpur *Muafi* on the Jamna, opposite Batesar, free of revenue. The Kayasths, the descendants of the old Qanungos, are represented by two branches, one of Madanpur and the other of Shikohabad. The former, with Lala Madho Narain as its head, owns, besides Madanpur, a number of lucrative villages and shares in Shikohabad. To the latter belong Mohnipur, Durgapur-Mohnipur, Nagla Umar and Lakhanpur. The Khattris, represented by Sompat Rai and Batesar Nath of Shikohabad, own now Aswa, Muhammadpur Sarai, Jawai, Shahpur and shares in other villages in this tahsil and in Mustafabad. The principal Brahman proprietors are those of Bhadesra, who also own Qamarpur, Baijua, Ubti and other villages. The Musalman landowners are the Saiyids of Shikohabad and Sarai Bhartara.

At the census of 1901 the population of the tahsil was 157,659, an increase of 12·75 per cent. over the figures for 1891, but 9·85 per cent. only over those for 1872, the tahsil having suffered like most other parts of the district from the wet seasons of 1881—1891. The density is 537 to the square mile of total area and 808 to the square mile of cultivation. The population is overwhelmingly Hindu, there being only 11,759 Musalmans, chiefly to be found in Rapri and Shikohabad, and 1,310 representatives of other religions. Among the Hindu castes Ahirs vastly preponderate with 33,903 members, Chamars coming next with 20,692, and after them Rajputs with 16,318. Brahmans

numbered 15,714, and no other caste had a membership of over 10,000, the most numerous being Lodhas, 7,151; Gadariyas, 5,172; Banias and Mahajans, 4,725; and Kahars, 2,996. The tahsil contained 2,364 representatives of that somewhat rare caste, the Kadheras, who are a subdivision of the Mallahs. They are all collected in the Jamna villages, where they have settled down as cultivators. Practically all the Kirars are also to be found in this tahsil, though as they were not recorded as a separate caste at this census, no figures are available. They are much better cultivators than most Rajputs.

The tahsil contains two towns: Shikohabad a notified area, and Sirsaganj an Act XX town, with populations of 11,139 and 6,043, respectively. These are two of the few marts in the district which have any external trade. The former contains the headquarters of the tahsil and besides some local trade in cloth and cotton exports a certain amount of grain, while at the latter an important cattle-market is held twice a week, and sugar, grain and cotton are collected for export. Factories for ginning and pressing cotton have recently been established in each town. Naushahra, to the east of Shikohabad, manufactures iron vessels and shoes, and Urmara Kirar, close by, turns out glass bangles in large quantities. With these exceptions the tahsil is a purely rural tract with no other industries than agriculture, and though there are 39 villages with populations of over 1,000, one, the enormous ravine village Orawar Hasht Taraf, having 4,265 inhabitants, there is none that has any claim to be called a town.

The tahsil is on the whole well provided with communications. The main line of the East Indian Railway runs through it from east to west with four stations within its borders, at Bhadan, Kaurara, Shikohabad and Makhanpur. Of these Shikohabad is the most important, being the junction for the new line to Mainpuri and Farrukhabad. Besides the railway there is a first-class metalled road connecting Shikohabad with Mainpuri, 30 miles away, and another leads to Agra city, 38 miles off. Other good metalled roads run to Jasrana and Etawah, to Sirsaganj, and towards the Jamna, the latter being metalled only as far as Nasirpur 10 miles away and giving access to the famous Batesar fair. There are also several good unmetalled

roads; one from Sikohabad to Mustafabad, and five radiating out from Sirsaganj to Etawah, Karhal, Mainpuri, Araon and Nasirpur on the Batesar road. Shikohabad formed, in Musalman times, part of the old pargana of Rapri, from which it was separated in 1824, since when four villages have been added to it from Mustafabad and 34 from the old pargana of Dehli-Jakhan. Its history will be found in the descriptions of Shikohabad and Rapri. The tahsil is in charge of a subdivisional officer stationed at Mainpuri, and magisterial powers are also exercised by the tahsildar. There are police stations at Sirsaganj and Shikohabad, and part of the Ghiror police circle, also, falls within the tahsil boundaries.

SIRSAGANJ, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* SHIKOHABAD.

This small town, in 27° 3′ N. and 78° 46′ E., lies on the Shikohabad-Etawah road 29 miles from the latter and six miles from the former, north of the East Indian Railway station of Kaurara, with which it is connected by a metalled road four miles in length. The town lies in two revenue villages, Sirsa and Dayaganj, and its name, a common one, is traceable no doubt to the same origin as that of the Sirsa river which flows a short distance past the south of the town. The population is 6,043, the principal castes being Banias, Mahajans, Kirar Thakurs, Chamars, Kachhis and Musalmans. The town is administered under Act XX and has a police force of one jamadar and nine chaukidars, together with a staff of sweepers for sanitary purposes. The total income of the town in 1908 was Rs. 1,724, Rs. 1,200 being derived from a house-tax and Rs. 521 from the sale of refuse. The town is important chiefly as a trade-centre, lying as it does at the terminus of no less than six roads coming into it from all directions. The Etawah road runs through the town and is its main thoroughfare. The market-place, Raikesganj, a Government property, was completed by Mr. Raikes, the collector of Mainpuri, in 1852, and is a fine open square to the south of the Etawah road, the shops on each side being the property of the traders. A market is held here every Wednesday and Thursday, the chief commodities besides corn being *ghi* and cotton. In 1869 the bazar was threatened by a rival market,

Mohanganj, belonging to the *zamindars*, and the collector issued stringent regulations limiting the brokers' fees, which threatened to become so exorbitant as to drive the traders to Mohanganj. This action was sufficient to prevent Mohanganj becoming established, and Raikesganj is the only market-place at the present day. A committee of traders agreed to maintain the bazar and its gates in a proper state of repairs and cleanliness. The main street is lined with shops, and though narrow is well kept and drained. Most of the traders are Jains and several Jain temples exist in the town. At the southern end of the town is a very handsome little mosque covered with floral designs picked out in red against its whitened surface. There are two cotton ginning factories at the western entrance of the town, as well as a police station, post-office and town school.

URESAR, *Pargana* and *Tahsil* Mustafabad.

This village is comprised in the revenue *mauzas* of Uresar Gajadhar Singh, Uresar Sarnam Singh and Uresar Rudar Singh. It lies in 27° 27′ N. and 78° 41′ E., about 28 miles to the west of Mainpuri. Its population in 1901 numbered 4,055, of whom 2,057 were males and 1,998 females. Classified according to religions there were 3,722 Hindus, 188 Musalmans and 95 others. The *zamindars* are Chauhan Thakurs of the Partabnair stock and the eponymous Gajadhar Singh was an honorary magistrate. The total area of the village is 3,943 acres, and nearly the whole of the cultivated area, which amounts to 1,942 acres, is irrigable. There are 27 outlying hamlets. The revenue demand is Rs. 5,680. There are a vernacular school, a post-office and a bazar here. Kunwar Dirgpal Singh, honorary magistrate, holds his court here, and Kunwar Sultan Singh is the village munsif of the Uresar circle.

USNIDA, *Pargana* Ghiror, *Tahsil* Mainpuri.

This village, in 27° 20′ N. and 78° 49′ E., lies about 21 miles west of Mainpuri and 12 miles north of Ghiror. The population in 1901 was 2,181, of whom 1,199 were males and 982 females. Classified according to religion there were 2,099 Hindus and 82 Muhammadans, while according to occupations

there were 14 *zamindars*, 1,352 cultivators, 142 traders and 111 labourers. The village, which contains a vernacular school, covers a total area of 2,979 acres, out of which 1,323 acres are cultivated, only 46 being irrigated from the canal. There are nine hamlets. It comprises one *mahal*, assessed at Rs. 3,900, and the *zamindars* are Thakurs.

Gazetteer of Mainpuri.

APPENDIX.

GAZETTEER

OF

MAINPURI.

APPENDIX.

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TABLE I.—*Population by Tahsils*, 1901.

Tahsil.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mainpuri	183,180	100,034	83,146	169,950	92,865	77,085	11,746	6,332	5,414	1,484	837	647
Bhongaon	226,940	123,246	103,694	216,253	117,626	98,627	9,730	5,083	4,647	957	537	420
Shikohabad ...	157,659	85,541	72,118	144,590	78,749	65,841	11,759	6,048	5,711	1,310	744	566
Mustafabad ...	163,180	88,611	74,569	151,031	82,133	68,898	9,663	5,097	4,566	2,486	1,381	1,105
Karhal	98,398	53,924	44,474	92,776	50,972	41,804	4,896	2,547	2,349	726	405	321
District Total ...	829,357	451,356	378,001	774,600	422,345	352,255	47,794	25,107	22,687	6,963	3,904	3,059

TABLE II.—*Population by Thanas*, 1901.

Name of Thana.	Total population.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Mainpuri	87,577	47,426	40,151	79,862	43,280	36,582	6,886	3,670	3,216	829	476	353
Kuraoli	48,575	26,355	22,220	45,980	24,972	21,008	2,258	1,200	1,058	337	183	154
Aunchha	30,228	16,641	13,587	28,931	15,913	13,018	1,196	667	529	101	61	40
Barnahal	38,904	21,355	17,549	36,555	20,147	16,408	2,125	1,079	1,046	224	129	95
Jasrana	63,575	34,536	29,039	59,154	32,194	26,960	3,728	1,927	1,801	693	415	278
Ghiror	45,754	25,241	20,513	43,459	23,993	19,466	1,816	1,001	815	479	247	232
Bhongaon	80,795	43,535	37,260	76,249	41,203	35,046	4,125	2,088	2,037	421	244	177
Bewar	51,535	28,192	23,343	49,252	26,956	22,296	1,901	1,029	872	382	207	175
Kishni	63,236	34,504	28,732	60,315	32,933	27,382	2,815	1,514	1,301	106	57	49
Kurra	29,430	16,121	13,309	28,418	15,551	12,867	1,012	570	442	...	...	...
Sirsaganj	83,968	45,683	38,285	78,548	42,811	35,737	4,713	2,477	2,236	707	395	312
Karhal	44,650	24,458	20,192	41,560	22,831	18,729	2,592	1,351	1,241	498	276	222
Shikohabad	66,599	36,002	30,597	59,284	32,250	27,034	6,828	3,449	3,379	487	303	184
Eka	62,233	33,643	28,590	57,821	31,361	26,460	3,496	1,795	1,701	916	487	429
Pharha	32,298	17,664	14,634	29,212	15,950	13,262	2,303	1,290	1,013	783	424	359
Total ...	829,357	451,356	378,001	774,600	422,345	352,255	47,794	25,107	22,687	6,963	3,904	3,059

TABLE III.—*Vital statistics.*

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1891 ...	22,678	12,053	10,625	29·75	17,615	9,869	7,746	23·11
1892 ...	23,154	12,459	10,695	30·38	18,424	10,170	8,254	24·17
1893 ...	29,357	15,589	13,768	38·50	15,385	8,415	6,970	20·19
1894 ...	29,926	15,838	14,088	39·26	20,228	11,002	9,226	26·54
1895 ...	31,644	16,597	15,047	41·52	16,023	8,542	7,481	21·02
1896 ...	30,311	15,963	14,348	39·77	19,839	10,939	8,900	26·03
1897 ...	26,691	14,057	12,634	35·02	27,600	14,577	13,023	36·21
1898 ...	25,695	13,520	12,175	33·71	25,591	13,589	12.002	33·58
1899 ...	38,508	20,172	18,336	50·52	31,962	16,666	15,296	41·93
1900 ...	34,114	17,879	16,235	*44·76	26,602	14,335	12,267	34·90
1901 ...	34,540	17,975	16,565	41·64	25,308	13,425	11,883	30·51
1902 ...	34,244	17,866	16,378	41·29	24,444	12,893	1 ,551	29·47
1903 ...	34,769	18,175	16,594	41·92	29,812	15,623	14,189	35·94
1904 ...	33,133	17,264	15,869	39·95	31,254	15,808	15,446	37·68
1905 ...	28,075	14,792	13,283	33·85	33,706	16,798	16,908	40·64
1906 ...	33,382	17,623	15,759	40·25	26,015	13,460	12,555	31·37
1907 ...	32,094	16,913	15,181	38·69	30,439	15,884	14,555	36·70
1908 ...								
1909 ...								
1910 ...								
1911 ...								
1912 ...								
1913 ...								
1914 ...								
1915 ...								
1916 ...								
1917 ...								
1918 ...								

* The rates from 1891 to 1900 are calculated from the returns of the 1891 census.

TABLE IV.—*Deaths according to cause.*

Year.	Total deaths from— All causes.	Plague.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel com-plaints.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1891	17,615	...	178	65	16,363	74
1892	18,424	...	1,150	33	16,415	27
1893	15,385	...	22	13	14,217	85
1894	20,228	...	752	11	18,337	82
1895	16,023	...	4	31	14,878	49
1896	19,839	...	2	1,377	17,113	51
1897	27,600	...	107	1,699	24,521	50
1898	25,591	...	...	3	24,477	15
1899	31,962	...	1	...	30,556	13
1900	26,602	...	29	6	24,962	29
1901	25,308	...	382	3	23,240	9
1902	24,444	...	3	...	22,837	5
1903	29,812	5	270	63	27,141	58
1904	31,254	2,331	34	59	26,791	32
1905	33,706	10,886	1	57	21,364	30
1906	26,015	172	109	499	23,177	16
1907	30,439	873	135	26	26,878	30
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						
1915						
1916						
1917						
1918						

TABLE V.—*Statistics of cultivation and irrigation*, 1314 Fasli.

Pargana and tahsil.	Total area.	Waste.	Culturable.	Cultivated.							Double-cropped.
				Irrigated.					Dry.	Total.	
				Total.	Canal.	Wells.	Tanks.	Other sources.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Mainpuri ...	104,644	41,616	14,547	24,831	8,159	13,694	...	2,978	23,650	48,481	10,559
Ghiror ...	94,609	40,103	13,164	25,960	9,573	15,608	...	779	15,382	41,342	10,247
Kuraoli ...	47,837	15,154	4,383	13,769	5,762	6,387	...	1,620	14,531	28,300	5,484
Mainpuri Tahsil ...	247,090	96,873	32,094	64,560	23,494	35,689	...	5,377	53,563	118,123	26,290
Bhongaon ...	174,660	47,708	26,538	53,281	30,837	17,036	...	5,408	47,133	100,414	26,979
Bewar ...	27,690	2,877	3,217	9,088	7,793	753	...	542	12,508	21,596	4,287
Alipur Patti ...	19,440	3,215	2,556	6,053	4,093	1,466	...	494	7,616	13,669	2,239
Kishni Nabiganj ...	71,703	23,577	9,636	20,314	10,919	7,835	...	1,560	18,176	38,490	10,828
Bhongaon Tahsil ...	293,493	77,377	41,947	88,736	53,642	27,090	...	8,004	85,433	174,169	44,333
Karhal ...	81,013	31,304	14,965	23,883	19,914	2,262	...	1,707	10,861	34,744	13,539
Barnahal ...	58,603	14,079	7,820	19,588	4,167	14,976	...	445	17,116	36,704	6,526
Karhal Tahsil ...	139,616	45,383	22,785	43,471	24,081	17,238	...	2,152	27,977	71,448	20,065
Shikohabad ...	188,396	49,209	12,884	56,821	20,176	35,639	...	1,006	69,482	126,303	16,035
Shikohabad Tahsil...	188,396	49,209	12,884	56,821	20,176	35,639		1,006	69,482	126,303	16,035
Mustafabad ...	203,113	64,327	23,276	63,657	13,588	48,947	...	1,122	51,853	115,510	22,690
Mustafabad Tahsil..	203,113	64,327	23,276	63,657	13,588	48,947		1,122	51,853	115,510	22,690
District Total ...	1,071,708	333,169	132,986	317,245	134,981	164,603	...	17,661	288,308	605,553	129,413

TABLE VI.—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Mainpuri.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Combination of wheat, barley, gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar.	Bajra.	Juar, bajra with arhar.	Maize.	Cotton alone and with arhar.
Fasli.												
1305	77,647	24,911	(a) 42,884			...	69,356	(a) 28,148			15,287	...
1306	71,517	21,105	6,576	2,631	34,448	...	72,319	1,346	1,027	27,489	14,912	...
1307	70,909	21,283	6,467	2,602	33,230	...	59,407	1,356	1,706	27,755	9,217	...
1308*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1309†	69,563	24,611	7,715	2,176	27,121	...	65,419	5,811	2,803	27,196	13,116	...
1310*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1311	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			...	...
1313	76,003	20,838	6,313	3,529	32,646	7,741	61,560	2,778	3,103	25,344	11,606	9,989
1314	69,718	21,001	6,864	1,283	29,275	6,666	73,200	2,535	2,338	30,372	13,366	10,329
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												
1324												
1325												

(*a*) Details not available as the returns have been weeded out. | * Figures not available owing to settlement operations.

† Year of verification—present settlement.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Bhongaon.*

Year.	Rabi. Total.	Rabi. Wheat.	Rabi. Barley.	Rabi. Gram.	Rabi. Combination of wheat, barley, and gram.	Rabi. Opium.	Kharif. Total.	Kharif. Juar.	Kharif. Bajra.	Kharif. Juar, bajra with arhar.	Kharif. Maize.	Kharif. Cotton alone and with arhar.
Fasli.												
1305	106,419	42,335	(a) 55,097			...	1,03,256	(a) 36,777			30,362	...
1306	107,138	40,241	7,837	4,113	43,706	...	96,519	1,381	1,010	35,017	28,131	...
1307*	...	...	...	...	...	..	84,887	1,069	1,340	39,018	15,648	...
1308*	103,043	47,727	7,809	2,881	32,996	...	94,688	9,632	7,087	28,670	22,274	...
1309†	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1310*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1311*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1312	109,680	46,376	8,331	3,328	37,197	...	97,031	1,763	2,034	42,008	19,999	...
1313	111,813	39,889	6,945	5,591	42,591	10,681	87,439	3,072	5,806	35,297	18,874	11,526
1314	102,747	40,286	7,705	2,274	36,071	10,425	113,713	2,729	4,533	44,572	25,884	13,296
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318 ...												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												
1324												
1325 ...												

(a) Details not available as the returns have been weeded out. | * Figures not available owing to settlement operations.
† Year of verification—present settlement.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Shikohabad.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Combination of wheat, barley and gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar.	Bajra.	Juar, bjara with arhar.	Maize.	Cotton alone and with arhar.
Fasli.												
1305	63,893	17,899	(a) 43,532			...	80,379	(a) 47,731			8,131	...
1306	68,618	17,611	2,710	4,410	40,980	...	73,447	622	2,507	40,786	6,869	...
1307	58,063	17,864	5,838	2,851	28,230	...	69,388	504	3,012	41,305	4,269	...
1308*	...	...	...	...	...	...	77,221	612	4,770	48,446	4,347	...
1309*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1310†	61,030	13,935	4,973	2,467	36,787	...	73,947	1,563	2,386	44,468	4,768	...
1311*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1314	59,067	15,260	3,297	1,395	32,502	2,450	82,160	1,512	4,198	43,548	5,459	22,211
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												
1324												
1325												

(a) Details not available as the returns have been weeded out. | * Figures not available owing to settlement operations.

† Year of verification—present settlement.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Mustafabad.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Combination of wheat, barley and gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar.	Bajra.	Juar, bajra with arhar.	Maize.	Cotton alone and with arhar.
Fasli.												
1305	70,416	26,306		(a) 42,028			71,160		(a) 34,052		15,911	...
1306	70,320	26,466	6,886	997	33,708	...	71,414	1,382	1,398	31,235	15,773	...
1307	64,863	23,224	7,779	1,071	29,750	...	65,567	1,414	1,561	32,206	11,191	...
1308*	...	...	...	...	...	...	71,146	1,552	2,184	36,037	12,735	...
1309*	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...
1310†	63,713	20,844	12,307	1,984	25,427	...	68,593	3,847	2,566	32,554	10,844	...
1311*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313	67,365	17,829	6,934	3,347	124,390	28,152	65,364	3,063	3,669	26,925	10,248	15,605
1314	61,053	20,581	7,036	716	26,571	27,369	74,764	2,792	3,307	31,709	11,665	17,407
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												
1324												
1325												

(a) Details not available as the returns have been weeded out. | * Figures not available owing to settlement operations.

† Year of verification—present settlement.

TABLE VI—(concluded).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Karhal.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Combination of wheat, barley and gram.	Opium.	Total.	Juar.	Bajra.	Juar, bajra and with arhar.	Maize.	Cotton alone and with arhar.
Fasli.												
1305...	41,679	14,614	(a) 22,869			...	49,786	(a) 19,319			10,619	...
1306...	45,410	13,961	2,290	1,992	21,975		46,547	371	154	15,531	9,627	
1307...	39,481	15,633	2,913	335	15,007	...	41,660	356	342	17,344	6,583	...
1308*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1309*	42,682	13,085	3,367	1,817	19,208	...	44,905	1,351	542	18,155	9,046	...
1310†		...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...
1311*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1312*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1313...	44,638	11,070	3,140	2,102	17,809	5,274	43,299	1,048	807	16,098	8,357	10,102
1314...	41,305	11,949	3,185	1,022	16,444	4,506	49,612	1,147	694	17,206	9,683	9,515
1315...												
1316...												
1317...												
1318...												
1319...												
1320...												
1321...												
1322...												
1323...												
1324...												
1325...												

(a) Details not available as the returns have been weeded out. | * Figures not available owing to settlement operations.

† Year of verification—present settlement.

TABLE VII.—*Criminal Justice.*

Year.	Number of persons convicted or bound over in respect of—												Cases under—	
	Offences against public tranquillity, chapter VIII.	Offences affecting life.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Cattle theft.	Criminal force and assault.	Theft.	Robbery and dakaiti.	Receiving stolen property.	Criminal trespass.	Bad livelihood.	Keeping the peace.	Opium Act.	Excise Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1896 ...	68	25	28	7	32	67	383	52	87	150	16	33	11	10
1897 ...	32	17	17	...	59	24	446	34	101	195	46	18	12	6
1898 ...	99	28	18	...	9	35	207	52	90	96	94	57	17	19
1899 ...	36	14	32	1	13	37	164	10	110	89	118	51	16	2
1900 ...	44	16	37	2	13	28	204	17	99	102	113	35	7	6
1901 ...	137	21	15	...	17	39	175	10	92	66	174	10	16	13
1902 ...	115	42	13	1	18	41	154	50	73	101	142	3	15	7
1903 ...	162	10	198	...	12	55	120	16	56	118	119	52	12	5
1904 ...	70	8	200	...	17	54	126	15	64	88	86	53	43	20
1905 ...	86	9	149	...	38	30	146	5	70	162	138	24	19	30
1906 ...	39	6	126	...	46	21	130	1	75	98	82	39	9	8
1907 ...	66	10	141	...	49	34	98	7	70	78	94	20	9	35
1908 ...	42	16	123	...	66	35	160	6	45	162	87	6	9	14
1909 ...														
1910 ...														
1911 ...														
1912 ...														
1913 ...														
1914 ...														
1915 ...														
1916 ...														
1917														

TABLE VIII.—*Cognizable crime.*

Year.	Number of cases investigated by police—			Number of persons.—		
	Suo motu.	By orders of Magistrate.	Sent up for trial.	Tried.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1892	2,214	18	1,063	1,543	467	1,076
1893	1,898	49	1,055	1,709	413	1,296
1894	1,777	41	1,139	1,660	438	1,222
1895	1,685	38	1,072	1,516	414	1 102
1896	1,562	30	1,003	1,485	501	984
1897	1,912	51	1,309	1,784	461	1,323
1898	1,279	31	860	1,460	365	1,095
1899	1,718	29	1,161	1,494	284	1,210
1900	1,741	44	1,008	1,266	214	1,052
1901	1,516	16	847	1,211	240	971
1902	1,345	21	766	1.188	243	945
1903	1,211	17	745	1,249	256	993
1904	1,327	12	810	1,168	218	950
1905	2,919	176	933	1,609	448	1,161
1906	2,217	221	694	1,339	547	792
1907	2,409	215	816	1,525	485	1,040
1908	2,208	316	678	884	93	791
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						
1915						
1916						
1917						

NOTE.—Columns 2 and 3 should show cases instituted during the year.

Table IX.—*Revenue demand at successive settlements.*

Pargana.	Year of settlement.						
	1803.	1809.	1812.	1840.	Revision of 1844.	1873.	1905.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Mainpuri	*	*	*	94,860	86,253	93,070	1,01,102
Ghiror	72,440	83,562	89,221	96,177	85,563	91,840	1,01,295
Kuraoli	31,818	32,585	32,676	38,428	32,715	41,770	46,853
Tahsil Mainpuri	...	..	...	2,29.465	2,04,531	2,26,680	2,49,250
Karhal	74,531	84,269	88,226	85,672	75,774	84,710	} 1,88,333
Barnahal	99,223	1,01,825	1,02,756	87,457	81,980	89,310	
Tahsil Karhal	1,73,754	1,86,094	1,90,982	1,73,129	1,57,754	1,74,020	1,88,333
Alipur Patti	17,637	19,530	20,885	19,798	18,696	21,890	21,176
Bewar	11,867	15,986	17,693	19,823	19,307	24,940	26,060
Kishni	54,754	70,000	78,817	79,695	69,194	77,730	81,945
Bhongaon	...	..	...	1,62.647	1,44,949	1,79,730	1,89,339
Tahsil Bhongaon		...	...	2,81,963	2,52,146	3,04,290	3,18,520
Mustafabad	*	*	2,59,874	2,80,898	2,55,376	2,92,880	3,19,840
Tahsil Mustafabad	...	..	2,59,874	2,80,898	2,55.376	2,92,880	3,19,840
Shikohabad		...	2,82,789	2,75,346	2,51,484	2,78,560	2,81,421
Tahsil Shikohabad	...	...	2,82,789	2,75,346	2,51.484	2,78,560	2,81,421
District Total ...	10,00,000	11,10,000	12,00,000	12,40,801	11,21,291	12,76,430	13,57,364

* NOTE.—Figures showing the demand at the earlier settlements are not available for these parganas as great portions of them were included in large taluqas, such as Manchhana and Muhammadpur-Labhaua, which comprised villages assessed collectively and not individually, and no record of the assessment village by village, if it was ever made, now exists.

TABLE X.—*Present demand for revenue and cesses for the year* 1314 Fasli.

Pargana and tahsil.	Where included in *Ain-i-Akbari.*	Revenue.	Cesses.	Total.	Incidence per acre— Cultivated.	Incidence per acre— Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Mainpuri ...	Bhongaon Sauj,	1,00,812	10,091	1,10,903	2 4 7	1 0 11
Ghiror ...	Rapri ...	1,01,187	10,119	1,11,306	2 11 1	1 2 8
Kuraoli ...	Kuraoli ...	46,413	4,641	51,054	1 12 10	1 1 0
Tahsil Mainpuri,	...	2,48,412	24,851	2,73,263	2 5 0	1 1 8
Bhongaon ...	Bhongaon ...	1,88,447	18,845	2,07,292	2 1 0	1 2 11
Bewar ...	Birwar ...	25,399	2,540	27,939	1 4 8	1 0 1
Alipur Patti ...	Patti Alipur ..	20,781	2,078	22,859	1 1 9	1 2 7
Kishni Nabiganj.	Bhongaon ...	81,804	8,181	89,985	2 5 4	1 4 0
Tahsil Bhongaon	...	3,16,431	31,644	3,48,075	1 15 11	1 2 11
Karhal ...	Etawah ...	94,026	9,436	1,03,462	2 15 7	1 4 5
Barnahal ...	Etawah ..	93,456	9,346	1,02,802	2 12 9	1 12 1
Tahsil Karhal,	...	1,87,482	18,782	2,06,264	2 14 2	1 7 7
Shikohabad ...	Rapri ...	2,81,024	28,236	3,09,260	2 7 2	1 10 3
Tahsil Shikohabad.	...	2,81,024	28,236	3,09,260	2 7 2	1 10 3
Mustafabad ...	Rapri ...	3,18,898	31,890	3,50,788	3 0 7	1 11 7
Tahsil Mustafabad.	...	3,18,898	31,890	3,50,788	3 0 7	1 11 7
District Total,	...	13,52,247	1,35,403	14,87,650	2 7 3	1 6 2

TABLE XI.—*Excise.*

Year.	Receipts from foreign liquors.	Country spirit.		Receipts from *tari* and *sendhi*.	Drugs.			Opium.		Total receipts.	Total charges.	Incidence of receipts per 10,000 of population from—			Number of shops for sale of—		
		Receipts.	Consumption in gallons.		Total receipts.	Consumption in maunds of— *Ganja.*	Consumption in maunds of— *Charas.*	Total receipts.	Consumption.			Liquor, including *tari.*	Drugs.	Opium.	Country spirits.	Drugs.	Opium.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
1890-91 ...	60	15,490	7,647	2,550	8,820	Not available	Not available	4,503	9 34	34,446	899	277	116	59	92	81	14
1891-92 ...	118	21,036	9,359	2,095	7,485	Not available	Not available	4,703	10 10	35,466	1,982	305	98	62	91	81	14
1892-93 ...	291	21,808	9,124	2,145	8,010	231 8	21 33	4,627	10 10	36,897	2,032	318	105	60	90	78	15
1893-94 ...	184	25,962	11,626	2,154	8,205	266 33	35 16	3,902	9 17	40,421	1,734	404	108	51	90	81	16
1894-95 ...	243	30,253	11,625	2,626	9,315	211 22	36 19	4,437	10 11	47,028	1,808	431	122	59	87	81	18
1895-96 ...	275	27,190	10,196	2,280	9,852	67 38	51 28	4,310	10 16	43,936	1,580	400	129	56	90	81	18
1896-97 ...	163	19,088	8,743	2,666	7,615	8 23	51 4	3,477	8 33	33,031	1,545	346	100	46	83	79	18
1897-98 ...	195	23,085	9,278	4,417	9,997	1 8	56 27	3,099	9 15	41,530	1,215	408	131	49	82	79	19
1898-99 ...	111	22,466	10,503	4,552	10,915	4 2	64 21	3,823	9 35	41,888	1,939	398	186	50	82	82	19
1899-1900...	135	28,668	9,218	4,723	12,813	0 5	49 30	3,661	9 10	50,022	1,720	439	235	49	79	82	20*
1900-01 ...	195	31,791	10,724	4,5[illegible]2	20,960	...	46 0	4,417	10 8	61,938	2,725	441	253	53	79	82	20
1901-02 ...	183	35,458	11,827	4,509	20,009	...	40 0	4,711	11 6	64,870	1,681	489	241	57	79	82	20
1902-03 ...	171	39,688	13,431	4,631	19,988	...	39 37	5,244	13 1	69,736	1,440	543	244	64	80	81	20
1903-04 ...	605	47,236	16,760	4,085	32,260	...	24 0	4,986	11 29	89,184	2,118	633	393	61	78	78	20
1904-05 ...	701	49,134	16,801	4,085	32,980	...	27 0	5,135	12 0	92,167	2,279	658	402	63	79	78	20
1905-06 ...	704	42,419	13,484	4,481	32,500	...	25 0	5,106	11 34	85,333	2,296	581	396	62	77	78	21
1906-07 ...	450	43,533	13,335	3,471	29,123	...	25 39	5,240	12 0	81,845	745	579	355	64	73	62	20
1907-08 ...	221	49,684	12,874	3,555	30,323	...	22 20	5,314	12 4	89,146	2,176	652	370	65	66	62	20
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	
1914-15 ...																	
1915-16																	
1916-17 ...																	
1917-18																	

* Includes one shop for medical purposes (druggist's permits and the like) from the year 1899-1900 to 1905-06.

TABLE XII.—*Stamps.*

Year.	Receipts from — Non-judicial.	Court-fee including copies.	All sources.	Total charges.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	18,794	1,19,900	1,38,786	2,122
1891-92	20,794	1,19,079	1,40,510	2,912
1892-93	19,465	1,09,018	1,28,527	2,659
1893-94	22,254	1,23,761	1,46,109	3,171
1894-95	25,005	1,13,256	1,38,413	2,739
1895-96	21,979	1,06,949	1,29,310	1,538
1896-97	25,375	93,427	1,19,028	1,728
1897-98	21,297	1,09,428	1,31,825	1,909
1898-99	19,981	1,03,837	1,25,475	1,989
1899-1900	23,320	1,09,031	1,33,930	2,074
1900-01	25,050	1,28,511	1,55,169	1,719*
1901-02	25,972	1,35,378	1,62,940	3,112
1902-03	23,190	1,22,144	1,47,036	3,395
1903-04	21,136	1,27,925	1,50,733	3,203
1904-05	23,975	1,36,083	1,61,715	3,303
1905-06	24,684	1,36,819	1,63,206	4,168
1906-07	24,898	1,44,474	1,71,045	3,102
1907-08	26,272	1,42,422	1,44,117	3,524
1908-09				
1909-10				
1910-11				
1911-12				
1912-13				
1913-14				
1914-15				
1915-16				
1916-17				
1917-18				

* Discount only.

TABLE XIII.—*Income-tax.*

Year.			Total receipts.	Collected by companies.		profits of companies		Other sources, Part IV.				Total charges.	Objections under Part IV.	
								Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.				
				Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Number filed.	Wholly or partly successful.
1			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
1890-91	...	...	34,351	...	...	...	...	983	16,466	141	13,813	838	512	233
1891-92	...	...	32,382	...	...	...	...	980	15,001	141	13,817	496	429	90
1892-93	...	...	32,441	...	...	...	...	979	15,194	133	13,300	698	358	94
1893-94	...	...	30,506	...	...	...	...	973	14,998	121	11,717	509	310	67
1894-95	...	...	30,963	...	...	...	...	1,012	15,269	114	11,638	286	465	90
1895-96	...	...	29,776	...	...	...	...	999	14,965	114	10,919	167	391	195
1896-97	...	...	29,326	1	203	...	...	955	14,353	114	10,618	160	385	109
1897-98	...	...	32,116	1	124	...	...	943	15,200	129	12,552	136	438	116
1898-99	...	...	31,294	1	182	...	...	945	15,293	131	12,100	251	361	110
1899-1900	...	...	29,469	1	177	...	...	909	14,688	111	10,745	44	243	19
1900-01	...	...	31,210	1	170	...	...	908	15,165	119	11,852	115	275	30
1901-02	...	...	31,246	1	161	...	...	924	15,233	118	11,941	454	252	74
1902-03	...	...	30,402	3	185	...	...	952	15,590	112	11,051	163	325	71
1903-04	...	...	22,421	3	99	...	...	335	8,850	94	9,743	360	153	43
1904-05	...	...	22,384	3	168	...	...	323	8,594	93	9,866	96	121	44
1905-06	...	...	22,107	3	156	...	...	316	8,393	94	10,019	112	132	48
1906-07	...	...	22,842	4	125	...	...	326	8,801	90	10,533	1,405	164	54
1907-08	...	...	21,973	9	418	...	...	320	8,595	86	9,348	277	160	61
1908-09	...	...												
1909-10	...	...												
1910-11	...	...												
1911-12	...	...												
1912-13	...	...												
1913-14	...	...												
1914-15	...	...												
1915-16	...	...												
1916-17	...	...												

Table XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Mainpuri. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Mainpuri. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Mainpuri. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Mainpuri. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax	Year.	Tahsil Shikohabad. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Shikohabad. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Shikohabad. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Shikohabad. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs. a. p.			Rs.		Rs.
1890-91...	350	5,261	35	4,204-0-0	1891-92 ...	200	3,636	42	4,076
1891-92...	302	4,374	44	4,904-0-0	1892-93 ...	193	3,082	38	3,777
1892-93...	297	4,436	38	4,468 0-0	1893-94 ...	194	3,073	39	3,823
1893-94...	286	4,138	37	3,998-0-0	1894-95 ...	198	3,151	33	3,135
1894-95...	317	4,173	35	3,945-0-0	1895-96 ...	216	3,381	3[illegible]	3,069
1895-96...	335	4,271	33	3,760-0-0	1896-97 ...	202	3,280	29	2,699
1896-97...	291	4,161	31	3,448-0-0	1897-98 ...	181	2,803	31	2,874
1897-98...	272	4,411	41	5,020-0-0	1898-99 ...	188	2,944	35	3,007
1898-99...	260	4,136	43	5,007-0-0	1899-1900 ...	181	2,909	36	2,908
1899-1900	240	3,500	39	4,066-0-0	1900-01 ...	188	3,062	26	2,234
1900-01...	235	3,783	35	4,349-0-0	1901-02 ...	180	3,139	29	2,553
1901-02...	244	4,001	34	4,196-0-0	1902-03 ...	200	3,353	29	2,536
1902-03...	252	4,100	34	4,117-0-0	1903-04 ...	210	3,415	28	2,393
1903-04...	80	2,179	32	4,135-0-0	1904-05 ...	66	1,866	26	2,191
1904-05...	85	2,220	29	3,850 0-0	1905-06 ...	70	1,944	29	2,587
1905-06...	85	2,130	32	4,205-9-1	1906-07 ...	62	1,792	28	2,499
1906-07...	88	2,267	34	5,253-2 6	1907-08 ...	83	2,350	21	1,929
1907-08...	85	2,254	31	4,017-1-10	1908-09 ...	80	2,251	22	2,052
1908-09...					1909-10 ...				
1909-10...					1910-11 ...				
1910-11...					1911-12				
1911-12...					1912-13 ...				
1912-13...					1913-14 ...				
1913-14...					1914-15 ...				
1914-15...					1915-16 ...				
1915-16					1916-17 ...				
1916-17...					1917-18 ...				
1917-18...									

TABLE XIV—(concluded).—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Bhongaon.				Tahsil Mustafabad.				Tahsil Karhal.			
	Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.		Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.		Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.	
	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1890-91 ...	159	2,294	17	1,066	160	3,064	26	2,693	114	2,211	21	1,774
1891-92 ...	181	2,571	15	952	170	2,807	24	2,525	134	2,167	20	1,659
1892-93 ...	180	2,603	13	872	176	2,918	24	2,525	132	2,164	19	1,612
1893-94	173	2,466	10	638	74	2,902	22	2,334	142	2,341	19	1,612
1894-95 ...	176	2,512	10	689	172	3,010	20	2,310	131	2,193	18	1,665
1895-96 ...	164	2,572	9	541	169	2,671	24	2,341	125	2,171	19	1,578
1896-97 ...	180	2,567	10	610	171	2,630	24	2,352	132	2,192	18	1,334
1897-98 ...	169	2,652	11	703	183	2,951	23	2,305	131	2,242	19	1,517
1898-99 ...	174	2,711	10	623	198	3,241	25	2,336	132	2,296	17	1,226
1899-1900	158	2,563	6	534	187	3,219	25	2,547	136	2,344	15	1,364
1900-01 ...	173	2,775	8	642	187	3,199	29	2,773	133	2,269	18	1,535
1901-02 ...	169	2,640	8	672	177	2,984	30	2,985	134	2,255	17	1,552
1902-03 ...	172	2,664	7	597	179	3,058	26	2,508	139	2,353	17	1,436
1903-04 ...	48	1,243	7	585	83	2,059	17	1,693	58	1,503	12	1,137
1904-05 ...	49	1,317	6	534	60	1,554	18	1,869	59	1,559	11	1,026
1905-06 ...	51	1,444	5	429	61	1,525	19	1,927	57	1,502	10	958
1906-07 ...	44	1,235	5	436	58	1,534	20	2,034	53	1,415	10	880
1907-08 ...	39	1,120	5	360	51	1,278	20	2,096	65	1,692	8	822
1908-09 ...												
1909-10 ...												
1910-11 ...												
1911-12 ...												
1912-13 ...												
1913-14 ...												
1914-15 ...												
1915-16 ...												
1916-17 ...												
1917-18 ...												

TABLE XV.—*District Board.*

Year.	Receipts.							Expenditure.									
	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Ferries.	Total expenditure.	Contributions to provincial funds.	General administration.	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	2,071	1,222	...	770	39	6,853	...	76,503	...	1,104	23,250	7,745	...	4,112	40,292	...	
1891-92 ...	2,080	1,487	...	563	33	4,466	...	72,631	...	1,174	22,673	7,851	...	1,944	38,989	...	...
1892-93 ...	2,099	1,563	...	1,577	84	1,[illegible]39	...	67,943	...	1,192	21,346	7,008	...	2,426	35,971	...	...
1893-94 ...	2,361	1,353	...	574	15	6,282	...	65,894	...	1,240	21,501	6,820	...	2,115	34,218	...	...
1894-95 ...	2,204	1,721	...	518	...	3,898	...	65,699	...	1,239	21,708	7,254	...	2,112	33,386	...	...
1895-96 ...	2,548	1,869	...	495	2,026	5,215	...	62,923	...	1,018	21,810	7,219	...	615	32,261	...	...
1896-97 ...	2,748	1,755	...	1,021	2,015	5,901	...	62,717	...	995	22,342	7,933	...	615	30,832	...	...
1897-98 ...	2,788	1,698	...	875	2,364	3,942	...	69,223	...	1,032	22,731	7,150	...	...	38,310	...	...
1898-99 ...	2,908	2,018	...	938	12,115	5,855	...	64,662	...	1,370	22,656	6,804	...	...	33,117	...	...
1899-1900 ...	2,907	1,791	...	882	4,406	*10,656	...	84,598	...	1,579	24,035	8,450	...	37	47,124	3,073	715
1900-01 ...	3,029	1,611	...	872	6,839	12,560	...	94,863	...	1,707	24,289	8,751	...	...	54,680	3,866	300
1901-02 ...	3,800	1,925	220	40	3,413	13,903	†4,036	92,594	...	1,708	24,764	8,701	948	215	51,394	3,854	1,570
1902-03 ...	4,189	1,891	342	920	3,623	15,138	4,350	1,00,814	2,751	1,452	28,617	9,456	1,094	13	52,999	3,838	1,010
1903-04 ...	4,118	2,022	374	27	6,139	15,645	3,357	94,628	...	1,818	29,032	9,930	1,447	63	47,166	4,333	594
1904-05 ...	3,589	2,663	361	6[illegible]9	4,189	13,826	2,899	99,540	...	1,668	29,150	10,160	1,383	198	53,630	3,056	839
1905-06 ...	3,720	3,044	348	[illegible]66	3,954	11,395	2,943	1,29,746	...	1,763	34,317	10,610	1,726	391	77,437	3,087	295
1906-07 ...	4,197	2,682	336	594	2,398	11,787	3,063	1,27,980	...	2,216	36,506	10,778	2,069	461	71,463	3,572	415
1907-08 ...	3,883	2,710	286	549	4,010	14,735	2,815	1,14,201	...	3,547	39,099	11,649	2,084	442	52,848	3,531	915
1908-09 ...																	1,001
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	
1914-15 ...																	
1915-16 ...																	
1916-17 ...																	
1917-18 ...																	

* Formerly net receipts only were shown. From this year receipts and also expenditure are given.

† From this year the gross receipts from ferries were for the first time credited to the District Board.

Table XVII.—*Distribution of Police*, 1908.

Thana.	Sub-inspectors.	Head-constables.	Constables.	Municipal police.	Town police.	Rural police.	Road police.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mainpuri ...	3	4	43	...	3	125	6
Bhongaon ...	2	1	13	...	10	135	9
Kishni ...	2	1	12	...	...	155	6
Bewar ...	2	1	13	...	...	148	14
Kuraoli ...	2	1	13	...	9	155	13
Kurra ...	2	1	13	...	...	124	4
Karhal ...	2	1	13	...	12	178	4
Ghiror ...	2	2	16	...	...	127	10
Sirsaganj ...	2	1	16	...	10	183	10
Shikohabad ...	2	2	19	...	19	192	14
Mustafabad ...	2	2	17	...	6	129	6
Eka ...	2	1	14	...	...	108	8
Civil Reserve ...	7	12	57	...	...	...	...
Armed Police ...	1	20	127	...	...	...	...
Total ...	33	50	389	...	69	1,759	104

TABLE XVIII.—*Education*, 1908.

Year.	Total.			Secondary education.			Primary education.		
	Schools and colleges.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.	
		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1896-97 ...	127	4,013	54	6	853	...	120	3,134	54
1897-98 ..	126	3,548	53	6	736	...	119	2,783	53
1898-99 ...	123	4,236	138	6	768	...	116	3,445	138
1899-1900 ...	134	4,652	140	7	861	...	126	3,791	140
1900-01 ...	133	4,701	147	7	862	...	126	3,839	147
1901-02 ...	134	4,541	156	6	828	...	121	3,704	156
1902-03 ...	144	4,843	183	6	788	...	138	4,055	183
1903-04 ...	154	5,016	173	6	752	..	148	4,264	173
1904-05 ...	148	4,678	181	6	776	...	142	3,902	181
1905-06 ...	164	5,991	830	6	877	1	158	5,114	829
1906-07 ...	235	7,169	704	6	886	..	229	6,283	704
1907-08 ...	254	7,943	797	6	946	1	248	6,997	796
1908-09 ...	250	7,757	888	7	1,110	94	242	6,617	794
1909-10 ...									
1910-11 ...									
1911-12 ...									
1912-13 ...									
1913-14 ...									
1914-15 ...									
1915-16 ...									
1916-17 ..									
1917-18 ...									

List of Schools, 1908.

Tahsil.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Mainpuri ...	Mainpuri	High School ...	137
	Ditto	Mission High School ...	130
	Ditto	Vernacular Middle School,	175
	Aunchha	Primary School ...	23
	Jeonti	Ditto ...	25
	Sikandarpur ...	Ditto ...	23
	Ghiror	Ditto ...	41
	Nauner	Ditto ...	45
	Auren	Ditto ...	105
	Naurangpur ...	Ditto ...	17
	Bhatani	Ditto ...	19
	Ghitauli	Ditto ...	29
	Fazilpur	Ditto ...	16
	Kuraoli	Ditto ...	111
	Daulatpur	Ditto ...	63
	Lalpur	Ditto ...	24
	Kuchela	Ditto ...	30
	Lakhaura	Ditto ...	18
	Angautha	Ditto ...	19
	Jawapur	Ditto ...	19
	Usnida	Ditto ...	21
	Tinrauli	Ditto ...	46
	Madhan	Ditto ...	16
	Belahar	Ditto ...	17
	Ikri	Ditto ...	21
	Faizpur	Ditto ...	21
	Isai	Ditto ...	50
	Ganj and Mainpuri free schools.	Ditto ...	196
	Purohitana... ...	Girls' School ...	20
	Nauner	Ditto ...	18
	Kuraoli	Ditto ...	16
	Mainpuri	Model School ...	18
	Minrhauli	Aided School ...	19
	Kharpari	Ditto ...	28
	Sonai	Ditto ...	13
	Rasemar	Ditto ...	17
	Sirsa	Ditto ...	12
	Sarai Latif... ...	Ditto ...	32
	Oe	Ditto ...	18
	Thorwa	Ditto ...	1
	Chapri	Ditto ...	19
	Manauna	Ditto ...	16
	Paraunkh	Ditto ...	29
	Sansarpur	Ditto ...	32
	Kason	Ditto ...	16
Shikohabad...	Shikohabad ...	Vernacular Middle School,	164
	Sarhupur	Primary School ...	44
	Rajaura	Ditto ...	26
	Bharaul	Ditto ...	22
	Makhanpur ...	Ditto ...	44
	Sothra	Ditto ...	31

List of Schools, 1908—(continued).

Tahsil.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Shikohabad—(*concluded*).	Labhaua	Primary School ...	54
	Sahnouli	Ditto ...	20
	Madanpur	Ditto ...	31
	Kesri	Ditto ...	25
	Karera	Ditto ...	20
	Aswai	Ditto ...	20
	Simra	Ditto ...	26
	Nagla Gulal ...	Ditto ...	25
	Gurha	Ditto ...	25
	Sirsaganj	Ditto ...	76
	Nain	Ditto ...	27
	Urmara	Ditto ...	23
	Birai Jahanabad ...	Ditto ...	19
	Punchha	Ditto ...	23
	Bhadan	Ditto ...	25
	Araon	Ditto ...	23
	Shikohabad... ...	Girls' School ...	53
	Makhanpur... ...	Ditto ...	17
	Dandiamai	Ditto ...	16
	Surajpur	Ditto ...	21
	Orawar ...	Ditto ...	24
	Salempur	Aided School ...	21
	Tiliani	Ditto ...	22
	Umri	Ditto ...	27
	Jaimai	Ditto ...	26
	Garhsan	Ditto ...	30
	Nasirpur	Ditto ...	17
	Pitepur	Ditto ...	34
Karhal ...	Karhal	Vernacular Middle School,	93
	Barnahal	Primary School ...	55
	Dihuli	Ditto ...	33
	Sahan	Ditto ...	12
	Chandikra	Ditto ...	20
	Harwai	Ditto ...	23
	Rampur	Ditto ...	20
	Terha Nawa ...	Ditto ...	19
	Rahmatullahpur ...	Ditto ...	15
	Takhrau	Ditto ...	29
	Karhal	Aided Girls' School ..	24
	Kamalpur	Aided School ...	14
	Nagla Dayal ...	Ditto ...	26
	Chandpura	Ditto ...	21
	Dundgaon	Ditto ...	16
	Terha	Ditto ...	16
Bhongaon...	Bhongaon	Vernacular Middle School,	143
	Ali Khera	Primary School ...	121
	Kirpalpur	Ditto ...	50
	Kirpia	Ditto ...	72
	Kishni	Ditto ...	51
	Allahabad	Ditto ...	62
	Bewar	Ditto ...	92

List of Schools, 1908—(continued).

Tahsil.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Bhongaon—(*concluded*).	Kusmara ...	Primary School ...	49
	Torarpur ...	Ditto ...	40
	Sultanganj ...	Ditto ...	33
	Kinawar ...	Ditto ...	28
	Katra Saman ...	Ditto ...	34
	Aurandh ...	Ditto ...	49
	Aghar ...	Ditto ...	23
	Jagatpur ...	Ditto ...	41
	Naigawan ...	Ditto ...	26
	Tarha ...	Ditto ...	31
	Gujarpur ...	Ditto ...	25
	Ratanpur ...	Ditto ...	19
	Garhia ...	Ditto ...	30
	Pharenji ...	Ditto ...	19
	Deoganj ...	Ditto ...	28
	Kaithauli ...	Ditto ...	20
	Sugaon ...	Ditto ...	28
	Sahara ...	Ditto ...	56
	Humayunpur ...	Ditto ...	25
	Nagla Penth ...	Ditto ...	24
	Sakra ...	Ditto ...	23
	Nabiganj ...	Ditto ...	40
	Chhachha ...	Ditto ...	36
	Jaramai ...	Ditto ...	19
	Ajitganj ...	Ditto ...	27
	Bewar ...	Girls' School ...	22
	Kusmara ...	Ditto ...	15
	Ali Khera ...	Ditto ...	19
	Bichhwan ...	Aided School ...	38
	Barauli ...	Ditto ...	18
	Jarauli ...	Ditto ...	16
	Hindupur ...	Ditto ...	22
	Barhat ...	Ditto ...	23
	Bhainsrauli ...	Ditto ...	25
	Mangaon ...	Ditto ...	18
	Tiliani ...	Ditto ...	18
	Chilaunsa ...	Ditto ...	29
Mustafabad,	Jasrana ...	Primary School ...	54
	Parham ...	Ditto ...	54
	Mustafabad ...	Primary School ...	26
	Uresar ...	Ditto ...	47
	Khairgarh ...	Ditto ...	54
	Paindhat ...	Ditto ...	22
	Pharha ...	Ditto ...	40
	Baragaon ...	Ditto ...	20
	Bhadana ...	Ditto ...	26
	Kusiari ...	Ditto ...	19
	Hatwant ...	Ditto ...	21
	Jhapara ...	Ditto ...	19
	Eka ...	Ditto ...	37
	Kaurara Buzurg ...	Ditto ...	10
	Hatauli Jaisinghpur ...	Ditto ...	18

List of Schools, 1908—(concluded).

Tahsil.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Mustafabad—(*concluded*).	Nagla Dhir ...	Primary School ...	21
	Bairni Sanaura ..	Ditto ...	18
	Suñao	Ditto ...	14
	Kailai	Ditto ...	17
	Pilakhtar	Ditto ...	31
	Bahat	Ditto ...	15
	Khudadadpur ...	Ditto ...	11
	Keshpur	Ditto ...	13
	Khairgarh	Aided Girls' School ...	22
	Tharaua	Aided School ...	28
	Sankhni	Ditto ...	20
	Katena Harsa ...	Ditto ...	16
	Kharit Milaoli ...	Ditto ...	28
	Nizampur	Ditto ...	18
	Kanwara	Ditto ...	21
	Rampur	Ditto ...	16

ROADS, 1908.

	Miles	Fur.	Ft.
A.—Provincial.			
(i) Grand Trunk road, Aligarh, Etah and Cawnpore section.	37	2	510
(ii) Agra, Mainpuri and Bhongaon Trunk road ...	45	6	557
*(iii) Etawah, Bewar and Fatehgarh road	20	1	93
Total ...	103	2	500
A.—Local.			
I-A.—First-class metalled roads bridged and drained throughout.			
(i) Etah and Shikohabad road	19	7	590
(ii) Shikohabad railway feeder road	1	4	180
(iii) Jasrana and Mustafabad road	6	7	500
(iv) Sirsaganj and Batesar road	2	2	280
†(v) Ghiror and Jasrana road	9	5	222
†(vi) Ghiror Kosma railway feeder road	3	2	180
Station roads.			
(i) Post-office to cricket ground road			
(ii) Great circular road			
(iii) Little " "			
(iv) Sansarpur junction			
(v) Ditto to dâk bungalow road			
(vi) Cricket-ground to Bhongaon road			
(vii) Encamping-ground road			
(viii) Police lines road	15	7	307
(ix) Church to Judge's court road			
(x) Judge's court to Isan Nadi road			
(xi) Church to Isan Nadi road			
(xii) Post-office to Collector's kachahri road ...			
(xiii) Kachahri junction road			
(xiv) Jail road			
(xv) Judge's court to city road			
(xvi) City to Devi road			
Total ...	59	5	279
I-B.—First-class local metalled roads partially bridged and drained ‡			
(i) Mainpuri and Kuraoli road	11	4	130
(ii) Mainpuri and Etawah road	18	4	0
(iii) Shikohabad and Sirsaganj road	7	2	0
(iv) Shikohabad and Batesar road	8	3	0
(v) Kaurara railway feeder road	1	2	190
Total ...	46	7	320
II-B.—Second-class unmetalled roads.			
(i) Shikohabad and Batesar road	3	0	0
(ii) Ghiror and Kuraoli road	18	0	0

* Provincialized from 1st April 1908. † Raised and metalled in 1907-08.
‡ Actually bridged and drained throughout.

ROADS, 1908—(*concluded*).

	Miles	Fur.	Ft.
***II-B.—Second-class unmetalled roads*—(concluded).**			
(iii) Jasrana and Baragaon road	2	3	0
(iv) Sirsaganj and Araon road	6	4	0
(v) Sirsaganj and Etawah road	12	0	0
(vi) Mustafabad and Pharha road	5	6	0
(vii) Sirsaganj and Karhal road	16	0	0
(viii) Karhal and Kishni road	19	4	0
(xix) Bhadan railway feeder road	2	0	0
(x) Mainpuri, Bhanwat and Saman road	17	0	0
(xi) Karimganj and Bichhwan road	3	0	0
(xii) Makhanpur railway station road	0	5	0
(xiii) Chhachha and Ali-Khera road	3	0	0
(xiv) Madar Darwaza road and Isan Nadi road to distillery road.	1	0	0
Total ...	109	6	0
III.—Third-class roads banked and surfaced but not drained.			
(i) Mustafabad and Paindhat road	2	4	0
(ii) Mainpuri and Sirsaganj road	23	4	0
(iii) Sirsaganj and Batesar road	7	3	0
(iv) Ghiror and Karhal road	15	2	0
(v) Shikohabad and Mustafabad road	12	0	0
Total ...	60	5	0
IV.—Fourth-class roads banked but not surfaced, partially bridged and drained.			
(i) Paindhat and Kailai road	3	0	0
(ii) Mustafabad and Kana-Kuan road	3	0	0
(iii) Kusiari and Pachawar road	4	7	0
(iv) Ghiror and Pachawar road	5	0	0
(v) Kalhor to Jarara road	2	0	0
(vi) Jawapur and Dannahar road	5	0	0
(vii) Nagaria to Gangsi road	7	0	0
(viii) Pul Pachawar to Nagla Fateh Khan road ...	5	0	0
(ix) Pul Aurangabad to Pul Patikra and Baragaon road,	12	0	0
(x) Nagla Salehi to Kusiari and Baragaon road ...	12	0	0
*(xi) Mota Alipur road	7	0	0
Total ...	65	7	0
GRAND TOTAL ...	446	1	439

* Banked and dressed in 1908.

FERRIES, 1908.

River.	Name of ferry.	Name of village.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
					Rs.
Kali Nadi.	Rajghat ...	Rajghat ...	Bhongaon ..	District Board,	540
	Bhanau, Mazra Aurindh.	Bhanau ...	Ditto ..	Ditto	745
	Hannu Khera ...	Hannu Khera ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	870
	Kakarghata ...	Kakarghata ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	130
	Alupura ...	Alupura ...	Mainpuri ...	Ditto	690

Lease-money for 1908-09.

POST-OFFICES, 1908.

Tahsil.	Locality.	Class of office.	Management.
Mainpuri ...	Mainpuri	Head office ...	Imperial.
	Mainpuri city ...	Sub-office ..	
	Kuraoli	Ditto ...	
	Aunchha	Branch office ..	
	Jeonti	Ditto ...	
	Kuchela	Ditto ...	
	Ghiror	Ditto ..	
Bhongaon ...	Sultanganj	Branch office ..	
	Bhongaon	Sub-office ...	
	Bewar	Ditto ...	
	Kishni	Ditto ...	
	Alipur Patti ...	Branch office ...	
	Kusmara	Ditto ..	
	Nabiganj	Ditto ...	
Karhal ...	Karhal	Sub-office ..	
	Barnahal	Branch office ...	
	Kurra	Ditto ...	
Shikohabad...	Shikohabad ...	Sub-office ...	
	Shikohabad R. S. ...	Ditto ..	
	Sirsaganj	Ditto ...	
	Bara Bazar ...	Branch office ..	
	Bhadan	Ditto ...	
	Bharaul	Ditto ..	
	Madanpur	Ditto ..	
	Makhanpur ...	Di to ..	
	Nasirpur	Ditto ...	
	Tiliani	Ditto ..	
	Urmara	Ditto ...	
Mustafabad...	Khairgarh ...	Branch office. ..	
	Jasrana	Sub-office. ...	
	Eka	Branch office ...	
	Mustafabad .	Ditto ..	
	Pharha	Ditto ...	
	Parham	Ditto ...	
	Uresar	Ditto ...	

MARKETS, 1908.

Tahsils.	Towns or villages.	Market days.
Mainpuri ...	Manchhana	Sunday and Wednesday.
	Nauner	Monday.
	Kuraoli	Monday and Friday.
	Ghiror	Tuesday and Friday.
	Darbah	Monday and Thursday.
	Kosma	Sunday and Thursday.
Bhongaon ...	Allahabad	Monday and Friday.
	Aung	Wednesday and Saturday.
	Kundi	Wednesday and Sunday.
	Tarapur, mazra Hatpao ...	Ditto.
	Kusmara	Monday and Thursday.
	Bewar	Tuesday and Friday.
	Katra, mazra Saman ...	Sunday and Thursday.
	Chauraipur	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Kishni	Ditto
	Mahuli-Shamsherganj ...	Monday and Friday.
	Ramnagar	Monday and Thursday.
	Nabiganj	Ditto.
	Arsara	Sunday and Wednesday.
	Kumhaul	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Laigaon	Sunday and Thursday.
	Chitain	Monday and Friday.
	Ali Khera	Tuesday and Friday.
	Barauli	Friday.
	Lalupura	Wednesday.
Karhal ...	Karhal	Sunday and Thursday.
	Kishanpur, mazra Patara,	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Kurra Khas	Wednesday and Saturday.
	Rampura, mazra Kurra ...	Thursday and Saturday.
	Makhiani, mazra Ninauli	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Urthan	Monday and Friday.
	Dalelnagar	Ditto.
	Dihuli	Monday and Saturday.
	Nawa Tehragaon ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
Shikohabad ...	Shikohabad	Tuesday and Friday.
	Sirsaganj	Monday and Wednesday.
	Bharaul	Wednesday and Saturday.
	Sarhupur	Tuesday and Friday.
Mustafabad ...	Khairgarh	Monday and Friday.
	Mustafabad	Sunday and Thursday.
	Parham	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Pharha	Monday and Friday.
	Uresar Gajadhar Singh ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
	Jasrana	Six days except Monday.
	Bahat	Wednesday and Saturday.
	Kusiari	Ditto.
	Shekhupur Hatwant ...	Thursday.

FAIRS, 1908.

Tahsils.	Locality.	Name of fairs.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Mainpuri	Mainpuri ...	Hardal fair ...	Sawan Sudi 15th ...	200
	Ditto ...	Devi fair ..	Chait Badi 8th ...	10,000
	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi 8th ...	4,000
	Aunchha ...	Raghraj fair ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	400
	Ditto ...	Mahadeo fair ...	Bhadon Sudi 15th ...	6,000
	Bidhaun ..	Makrand fair ...	Katik Sudi 15th ...	1,000
	Sujrai ...	Tij fair ...	Chait Badi 3rd ...	700
	Fatehganjpur ...	Mahadeo fair ..	Phagun Badi 13th...	500
	Sarhpura ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	400
	Isai Sarai ...	Ditto ...	Bhadon Sudi 14th ...	50
Bhongaon	Allahabad ...	Kale Khan fair	On every Thursday...	500
	Ditto ...	Devi fair ...	Chait Sudi 6th ...	4,000
	Aungh ...	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi 15th ...	250
	Kusmara ..	Mahadeo fair ...	Phagun Sudi 13th...	25
	Chaunraipur ...	Devi fair ..	Asarh Sudi 15th ...	400
	Mahuli-Shamshergang.	Ditto ..	Chait Sudi 9th ...	300
	Ditto ...	Mahadeo fair ...	Ditto ...	100
	Laigaon ...	Ditto ...	Asarh Sudi 15th ...	800
	Banakia ...	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi 13th ...	200
	Nagla Debi ...	Devi fair ...	Baisakh Sudi 13th...	300
	Jakha ...	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi 5th ...	1,200
	Manchhana ...	Ditto ...	Ditto 8th ...	2,000
	Ratanpur Bara,	Ditto ...	Chait and Kuar ...	2,000
	Bhanwat ...	Mahadeo fair ...	Katik Sudi 2nd ...	500 & 1,500
	Sakat Bewar ...	Devi fair ..	Ditto 10th & 15th,	400
	Dayanatnagar Mota.	Mahadeo fair ...	Phagun Badi 13th ...	1,000
	Baghera ...	Devi ...	Chait Sudi 1st to 9th,	300
	Tarha ...	Ram Nawmi ...	15th Chait to 15th Baisakh.	400
	Dhamianpur ...	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Badi 13th...	400
	Alipur-Keshonpur.	Devi ...	Chait Sudi 6th ...	300
	Naigawan Kheria.	Ram Nawmi ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	150
	Jatpura ...	Churesar ...	Katik Sudi 1st ...	600
	Hindupur ...	Dhanush-Jug ...	Aghan Sudi 5th to 15th.	125
	Nagla Barua Nadi	Devi ...	Chait Sudi 5th ...	50
	Sheopura ...	Bhairon ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	250
	Patna Tilua ...	Mahadeo ...	Chait Badi 13th ...	...
	Madhkarpur ...	Astik ..	On every Monday, in	200 each
	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Chait and Kuar Sudi 9th.	
	Dharmau ...	Devi ...	Chait Sudi 9th and Badi 8th.	400 each
	Sahara ...	Mahadeo ...	Bhadon Sudi 6th ...	200
	Chhachha ...	Sobal Sunt ...	Every Sunday ...	25
	Jogpur ...	Mahadeo ...	Phagun Sudi 13th ...	1,000 each
	Mazra Debipur		Bhadon Sudi 6th ...	

FAIRS, 1908—(*concluded*).

Tahsils.	Locality.	Name of fairs.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Bhongaon—(*concld.*).	Alipur Patti ...	Mahadeo ...	Chait Sudi 9th ..	400
	Sanda ...	Ditto ...	Phagun Sudi 13th..	600
	Chandpur ...	Devi ...	Chait Sudi 8th ...	500
	Ditto ...	Do ...	Asarh Sudi 15th ...	500
	Partabpur ...	Badla Shah ...	Magh Sudi 5th ...	200
	Rui Sanaura ...	Mahadeo ...	Bhadon Sudi 6th ..	4,000
	Bhongaon ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Badi 13th ...	10,000
Karhal...	Karhal ...	Jabahar ...	Bhadon Badi 12th ...	200
	Ditto ...	Nemnath ...	Chait Badi 9th ...	500
	Ditto ...	Jagdhar ...	Kartik Badi 2nd ...	150
	Ditto ...	Devi ...	Chait Badi 8th ...	800
	Kurra Khas ...	Do. ...	Ditto ...	200
	Urhan ...	Jidhikar ...	Kartik Sudi 15th ...	200
	Dihuli ...	Ditto ...	Bhadon Badi 12th ..	350
	Kirthua ...	Mahadeo ...	Phagun Badi 14th ...	200
	Rajpur ...	Hanuman ...	Kartik Sudi 15th ..	200
	Gambhira ...	Ditto ...	Chait Badi 2nd ...	200
	Andani ...	Mahadeo ...	Phagun Badi 13th ...	200
	Sahan ..	Devi ...	Baisakh Badi 3rd ...	200
	Bansak ...	Do. ...	Kuar Badi 9th	200
	Udhan ..	Do. ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	150
	Dundwa ..	Do. ..	Chait Badi 8th ...	150
	Bharti ..	Bhairon ...	Chait Badi 11th ...	150
	Patara ...	Bahabar Nath ..	Chait Sudi 15th ...	300
	Ujhiyani ...	Mahadeo ...	Phagun Badi 14th...	200
	Nitaoli ...	Devi ...	Chait Badi 8th ...	300
	Bhagwatipur ...	Do. .	Ditto ...	200
	Mansarpur .	Do. ...	Chait Badi 9th ...	200
	Sanupura ...	Do. ...	Ditto ...	200
	Barnahal ...	Do. ...	Ditto .	400
	Lakhanmau ...	Do. ...	Ditto ...	150
	Kumheri ...	Do. ...	Baisakh Sudi 9th ...	200
	Chandikra ...	Mahadeo ...	Chait Sudi 3rd ...	250
Mustafabad.	Mustafabad ...	Ram Naumi ...	In Chait ...	1,000
	Pirthipur ...	Nagarsen ..	Baisakh Sudi 8th...	500
	Santhi ...	Sheoratri ...	Phagun 13th ...	3,000
	Paindhat ...	Jakhia ...	In Magh, when full moon is visible on Sunday.	20,000